

## King offers condolences to Assad; Arab leaders, Demirel telephone HM

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, who is recuperating in his private residence in London after a surgical operation for the removal of an abscess, Monday called Syrian President Hafez Al Assad to offer his condolences on the death of Mr. Assad's brother, Ismail, last week. President Assad congratulated the King on the success of the surgery and wished him speedy recovery. King Hussein also Monday received calls from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Turkish President Suleiman Demirel and President Yasser Arafat who congratulated the King on his recovery. The King received a cable from Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Sa'd Hayel Srour, who congratulated the King on the success of the surgery on behalf of members of the House.

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## Jordan wants to settle water rights with Syria

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government has announced that it was time that Jordan and Syria settled their water rights in the Yarmouk River, a local paper reported Monday. Al Ra'i Arabic daily quoted a Ministry of Water source as saying that the water agreement signed between the two countries in 1987 needed to be reviewed after Syria built 30 dams on the Yarmouk instead of 22 agreed between the two sides. The source told Al Ra'i that the 1987 agreement gives Jordan 120 million cubic metres of water that it was not getting. The source, which did not reveal the amount Jordan was getting now, said the Kingdom should be able to build a dam downstream on the river to tap the agreed amount of water. The government announced this week that water deficit this year for domestic consumption would reach 55 million cubic metres.

## Regent sends cables to Mubarak, Sultan Qaboos

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on Monday cabled Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, expressing his good wishes on the anniversary of the Egyptian revolution. The Regent also Monday sent a cable to Sultan Qaboos of Oman, expressing good wishes on the anniversary of his assumption of his constitutional powers. He wished the sultan good health and happiness and continued progress and prosperity for the Omani people.

## Arafat to visit Syria Thursday

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Palestinian President Yasser Arafat will visit Damascus on Thursday to coordinate positions on Middle East peace moves with President Hafez Al Assad, an aide said on Monday. The one-day visit will be Mr. Arafat's first to Syria since the Palestinian leader returned to Gaza in 1994 under a self-rule deal with Israel. "The president will hold consultations with President Assad on coordinating stands following the Cairo Arab summit," Mr. Arafat's media adviser Nabil Abu Rdainah told Reuters. "We look forward to this visit and accord it much importance." Mr. Arafat and Mr. Assad met in Cairo in June during the first Arab summit meeting in six years.

## Israel court freezes Palestinian women release

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israel's high court on Monday temporarily bar-red the release of two jailed Palestinian women whom President Ezer Weizman had decided to pardon, a court spokesman said. Spok-esman Moshe Goral said the court put the release on hold at least until Thursday when a petition against freeing the women brought by a right-wing Israeli group would be heard by a three-judge high court panel. Last Thursday, Mr. Weizman's spokeswoman said the president had decided to pardon two Palestinian women convicted of murder. He had previously refused to free the two because they had "blood on their hands." The army said on Sunday it was weighing pardoning three other Palestinian women who had been convicted in military courts of murder. All five were expected to be released this week.

# Government says bread prices will be hiked to avoid economic crisis

By Sa'd Hattar

AMMAN (AFP) — The government on Monday swept aside angry protests from Islamic-led opposition parties saying a controversial rise in bread prices would go ahead to avert economic crisis. Information Minister Marwan Muasher said bread prices had to be increased to reduce the budget deficit but stressed the government would bring in compensation to ease the burden on the public. "The government will pay each and every Jordanian the price difference before announcing its decision," Dr. Muasher told a weekly press briefing. The government has pledged that each Jordanian, including displaced Palestinians and refugees, would receive an annual wage increase to offset the hike in bread prices. Only the 1.2 million tourists and 400,000 foreign residents and workers will therefore be

affected by the increased costs. By raising the price 300 per cent from 85 fils to 250 fils, the government hopes to slash 40 per cent from bread subsidies, expected to hit a record high of \$150 million in 1996. The opposition has argued the increased cost will further squeeze the Kingdom's poorest. Dr. Muasher said that the government's "aim is to curb unwarranted surplus and waste of bread consumption due to its low price." He said the government was selling wheat at a fifth of its international price, adding some cattle dealers were even feeding it to their stock instead of grass because it was so cheap. "We buy the tonne of wheat for JD 252 and supply it to consumers for JD 52," he said. "Our annual consumption of wheat is currently set at 660,000 tonnes and the price hike is set to cut the consumption to normal rates of 400,000."

The JD 150 million projected deficit in the Kingdom's JD 1.8 billion annual budget now threatens to derail an International Monetary Fund (IMF)-monitored reform programme. On Sunday, 11 opposition parties, led by the Islamic Action Front, together with unions and women's groups, tried to hold a sit-in in front of Parliament. Only a few dozen managed to stage a protest near the building, after access was sealed off by large numbers of police. Prime Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti has challenged opposition figures to take part in a live televised debate, when he would defend his government's decision. Some 41 deputies have also joined the chorus of protest signing a petition urging the government to scrap its plans or face a vote of no-confidence. The opposition says a petition bearing 30,000 signatures protesting the plans has been delivered



Dr. Marwan Muasher

to Parliament Speaker Sa'd Hayel Srour. The opposition has also announced a planned sit-in Friday. It is not clear yet whether the deputies opposed to the price hike will call for a no-confidence in the government.

Indications are, however, that not all the lawmakers opposed to raising bread prices will go as far as withdrawing confidence from the government to press for a reversal of the decision. Twenty-two out of the 80 members of the House are ministers.

## De Charette meets Assad; Ashrawi says Orient House not on itinerary

LATAKIA, Syria (Agencies) — French Foreign Minister Herve de Charette met Syrian President Hafez Al Assad on Monday at the start of a Middle East tour to sound out Arab and Israeli leaders on the state of the peace process. Mr. De Charette was to receive Mr. Assad's "impressions" of the impact on the region of the accession to power of right-wing Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in Israel, diplomats said. He earlier held talks with Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al-Sharaa and stressed "the need to remain committed to the principles of peace based on U.N. resolutions and on the exchange of land-for-peace," the official news agency SANA said. The two diplomats also praised Franco-Syrian relations and vowed to boost them, SANA said. The government-run press here said Syria was pleased Europe was showing

an interest in salvaging the stalled peace process. "At a time when the Americans keep hands folded vis-a-vis the Israeli intransigent policy for electoral reasons, Europe's role emerges stronger than ever before," the Syria Times said. After spending Monday night in Latakia on Syria's Mediterranean coast, Mr. De Charette will fly to Beirut. He will also visit Jordan before going to Israel, the Gaza Strip, and Egypt during his three-day tour. Mr. De Charette was accompanied by diplomat Jean-Michel Gausson, who represents France on a committee to monitor the ceasefire brokered between Israel, Lebanon and Hizbollah guerrillas after an Israeli offensive in South Lebanon in April. U.S. State Department coordinator for the Middle East Dennis Ross was also due in the region late Monday for talks on the future

of the peace process. When he visits, Jerusalem, Mr. De Charette will avoid the Orient House, the PLO unofficial headquarters in occupied Jerusalem, a Palestinian minister said. "Mr. De Charette will not visit Orient House. He will meet a Palestinian delegation at the French consulate" instead, Higher Education Minister Hanan Ashrawi told AFP. "We are not angry at France because we know the French position concerning Jerusalem," she added. Hassan Asfur, head of Palestinian negotiations with Israel, said only that the Palestinians "could not impose their point of view on France." Palestinian leaders had said Monday they hoped that Mr. De Charette would visit Orient House in defiance of Israel, which has put intense pressure on Paris to avoid including it in his itinerary.

"We would like Mr. De Charette to come to Orient House as other French leaders have done before him," said one official at Orient House who asked to remain anonymous. Mr. De Charette is the first European minister to visit Jerusalem since the right-wing Israeli government assumed power last month and pledged to stop all Palestinian political activity in East Jerusalem. "The French government is perfectly aware of the Israeli position concerning any visit to Orient House," Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman Danny Shek said Monday. A spokesman for the French Foreign Ministry in Paris said Friday his government would not cave in to any external pressure on the issue, but at the same time did not commit the minister to visiting Orient House. "We will do what we consider to be useful," he said.

## 12 dead, 14 injured in Algeria massacre

ALGIERS (AFP) — Twelve people died and 14 were injured when extremists attacked a bus carrying employees of an Algerian state-owned company, the press reported here Monday. The massacre Saturday at Keddara, 50 kilometres southeast of Algiers, was one of the worst acts of violence this year in Algeria, where the government and Armed Islamist groups continue a virtual civil war that has killed up to 50,000 people since the announcement of December 1991 elections. The driver of the bus, carrying employees of the National Industrial Vehicles Corp, tried to break through a bogus checkpoint but was stopped by automatic weapons fire, a survivor told the daily Le Matin. The attackers forced the passengers off the bus and singled out five people by name before decapitating them with machetes, the survivor said from his hospital bed. He said several bombs exploded killing seven people, including two villagers who ran towards the bus to help after hearing gun shots. In the past five days more than 20 people have been killed and about 100 others injured in bomb attacks by Islamist militants.

## Israel thanks Iran over return of dead soldiers, admits indirect contact

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel took a rare step towards Iran when it acknowledged its role in the return of the remains of two Israeli soldiers by the pro-Iranian Hizbollah in Lebanon. Hizbollah handed Israel on Sunday the bodies of two soldiers missing for a decade in exchange for the remains of 123 guerrillas. It also freed 17 pro-Israeli South Lebanon Army (SLA) militiamen in return for 45 prisoners held by the SLA in Lebanon. "There is no question about an Iranian decision to go ahead with this particular exchange. Whether that signifies a broader change I cannot say," Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told reporters after the German-brokered swap. In recent years, Israel has accused Iran of sponsoring Muslim militant groups bent on destroying the Jewish state and the Middle East peace process. Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said after the exchange: "As a goodwill gesture I want to thank everyone who dealt in this humanitarian deed — in Lebanon, in Syria and in Iran... and I want to ask them to continue in their efforts." The two Israeli servicemen reached their final resting place Monday, in back-to-back funerals attended by thousands of mourners and Israel's prime minister. Mr. Netanyahu, who attended both funerals, said he hoped peace would bring an end to the pain caused by war. "We were given the right to ease the suffering of mourning parents by bringing their children home," Mr. Netanyahu said as he stood over Fink's grave. "In their memories we will strive for true peace, so that there will be no more mourning parents."

Fink and Alsheikh's coffins, draped in blue and white Israeli flags, were buried with full military honours. Soldiers wearing purple berets of the Givati Brigade in which both men served escorted the coffins to the gravesites. In Beirut on Monday, Hizbollah leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah pledged to help search for Israeli air force captain Ron Arad, missing since his plane was shot down over Lebanon on Oct. 17, 1986. Sheikh Nasrallah said the release of about 70 more Lebanese prisoners was linked to the fate of Arad, whom Israel believes may still be alive and held by Iran. He said Hizbollah had lost track of Arad shortly after his capture, but promised "to help find out his whereabouts." Iran denies holding Arad. Despite the positive political climate spurred by the prisoner swap, Sheikh Nasrallah said his group would not abandon its guerrilla war against Israeli troops occupying a border enclave in South Lebanon. "What happened yesterday has nothing to do with the our resistance operations," he said. "We will continue our struggle until the enemy is out of Lebanon." Sheikh Nasrallah revealed Monday for the first time that both Fink and Alsheikh died within a few hours of their capture from wounds suffered in the ambush. The remains of 123 Hizbollah guerrillas arrived on 17 trucks Monday to the Lebanese village Kfar Tibnit. Dozens of frenzied relatives leaped onto the trucks looking for the bodies of their loved ones. Some caskets were labelled with names but others bore only numbers, making verification difficult.

## More bodies, major part of plane found

EAST MORICHES, New York (AP) — Searchers scouring the ocean floor off New York on Monday found a large piece of the wreckage of TWA Flight 800 while families of its 230 victims were at a sea-side memorial service, the governor said. "God works in very strange ways," Gov. George Pataki said at the close of the ceremony. "While we were here, a major part of the fuselage has been found. Additional bodies have been located." No details were available, and federal officials leading the search had no immediate confirmation of Mr. Pataki's statement. National Transportation Safety Board Vice-Chairman Robert Francis had said earlier that investigators were having trouble

finding a 4.6-metre-high object that might be a large section of the airliner. The ship that originally spotted the object lacked sophisticated navigational equipment, making it hard to relocate, Mr. Francis had said on NBC's "Today" show. A large chunk of wreckage could provide clues as to what doomed the jet. The FBI noted Sunday that every delay gives any terrorist who might be responsible extra time to avoid capture. The navy resumed its search Monday in improving ocean conditions, with waves around 0.6 metres high and moderate wind. The Coast Guard continued collecting debris on the surface near the crash site, about 19 kilometres off eastern New York's Long

Island. In Denver, President Bill Clinton asked the nation to sympathise with the crash victims' families, who are frustrated that the recovery of their loved ones' bodies has been so slow. "It is literally an agonising process," Mr. Clinton said. "We can all imagine how we would feel if we were in their place. I want the families to know I am working as hard as I can to speed this process, to make it as easy as possible." On Sunday, families and friends of the victims gathered at dozens of memorial services across the country. Another service was held Monday, a waterfront gathering at one of the closest land points to the crash site. Mr. Pataki, who arranged the service, told the grieving families, "there are no

right answers when someone you love is gone." Mourners clutched roses that were then taken to the site and thrown in the water. Of the 101 bodies recovered so far, 53 had been positively identified, authorities said Monday. Suffolk County medical examiner Dr. Charles Wetli has said identifying the rest of the recovered bodies could take "several more days." Mr. Pataki ordered more pathologists to the scene to help. Weather and heavy seas have hampered the search, and crucial sonar snagged on the ocean floor and now needs to be retrieved. An underwater videocamera failed to work. The search for the Boeing 747's two "black boxes" (Continued on page 3)

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued on page 3)



## U.N. arms experts leave Iraq, tension remains

### Iraqi oil exports could start in August, MEES reports

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — A team of United Nations arms experts left Baghdad on Monday after Iraqi authorities again prevented them from entering sensitive sites.

Iraq had blocked chief arms inspector Nikita Smidovich and his 34 experts from entering a site in the outskirts of Baghdad and a U.N. source said the team's unscheduled departure was a signal that problems over access remained.

"I am not sure he (Smidovich) did all that he had in mind given the 60-hour delay because of Iraq's refusal to allow entry to the site," said the source, who declined to be named.

Iraqi and U.N. sources confirmed that Mr. Smidovich and a few members of his team did make it to the site following a demand by the U.N. Security Council on Friday that Baghdad provide immediate and unconditional access.

"It was no immediate access. They found some solution but UNSCOM (U.N. Special Commission on Iraq) is not very happy," the U.N. source said. He accused Iraq of backtracking on earlier promises not to block U.N. searches of materials and documents banned under the 1991 Gulf war ceasefire.

The Iraqis maintain that they did not prevent Mr. Smidovich from entering the site but barred his inspectors from using what they described as a "presidential highway" to reach it.

They said they were still committed to a June 22 agreement UNSCOM's Chairman Rolf Ekeus signed with Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz granting U.N. inspectors immediate access to all sites in Iraq provided they fully respected Iraq's concerns over national sovereignty.

Under the agreement only four U.N. arms experts are allowed to enter sites deemed as "sensitive" by Iraq and they should be accompanied by a senior official with a ministerial rank.

## Kuwait worried by Iraq military strength

KUWAIT (R) — Iraq's army has strengthened since its 1991 Gulf war defeat and this worries Kuwait, the Gulf state's defence minister said in remarks published on Monday.

The minister, Sheikh Ahmad Hamoud Al-Sabah, told Al-Anba newspaper Kuwait had rebuilt 70 per cent of its military following its destruction and looting by Iraq during Baghdad's 1990-91 occupation.

Referring to Iraq's army, he said: "Its situation now is much better than it was five years ago. They conduct training around the year. This force is still considered a major worry for US."

Iraq invaded its small neighbour in August 1990 after months of quarrels about the border, oil policy and financial aid. A U.S.-led coalition liberated Kuwait in February 1991.

Sheikh Ahmad said Kuwait's 15,000-strong armed forces had to make up for their limited size by buying advanced weaponry and training soldiers to use them well.

"We need very qualified individuals," he said. "We have to improve our army by depending on technology and advanced equipment to make up for small size."

Mr. Smidovich and three of his inspectors did enter one such site during their seven-day mission accompanied by General Dhaif Akbul Majeed, chairman of Iraq's Military Industrialisation Commission.

Mr. Ekeus had called off the inspections when Iraqis insisted Mr. Smidovich could not use the highway.

The U.N. source said the inspectors then split into two groups, one resuming spot searches of military sites and the other investigating how Iraq concealed information from them.

Meanwhile, a specialist weekly published in Nicosia said Iraq could start exporting oil for the first time in six years in August under the U.N.-approved oil-for-food deal.

"The U.N. sanctions committee is expected to approve this week the guidelines for oil sales," said the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES), adding that "barring unforeseen developments" oil sales would begin in August.

United Nations Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali on Thursday

plan rejected by Washington on June 27, allocates spending of \$1.32 billion on humanitarian supplies for the first six months, said MEES.

A further sum of around \$200 million has been set aside for water, power, agriculture, education and sanitation projects, the Review added.

## Erbakan opposed to U.S. presence, Iraq says

In Baghdad, an official newspaper said Monday it was convinced that new Turkish Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan opposed the presence of U.S. forces in Turkey which provide cover for Kurdish rebels in northern Iraq.

"Erbakan and many officials have repeated that Turkey's interest is to set up good neighbourly ties with Iraq and that they plan to boost trade with Iraq following the U.N. oil-for-food deal," the official Al-Thawra newspaper said.

"Different Turkish government and opposition officials are increasingly opposed to the presence of American troops on Turkish soil," Al-Thawra said.

"But Mrs. Albright does not want to understand this and thinks Turkish politicians can close their eyes to the presence of these troops which threaten the security of Turkey and neighbouring countries, particularly Iraq," it said.

Madeleine Albright, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, said in Ankara Friday that Turkey and the United States had reached an agreement in principle to continue the operation dubbed "Provide Comfort."

The Turkish parliament is to review the mission involving allied forces in the next few days.

On July 12 Iraq and Turkey signed a framework cooperation agreement after a Turkish delegation visited Baghdad.



A TRACTOR RUNS OVER A MAN IN A DAMASCUS SHOW: A 3.5-tonne tractor runs over Terki Abu Hadeer, 47, during a show in Jaramana near Damascus Sunday. Mr. Abu Hadeer claims to have developed his strength by field exercises and has never seen a doctor (Reuters photo)

## 'Palestinians going thirsty'

HEBRON, West Bank (R) — Many Palestinians in the West Bank are suffering from serious water shortages leaving them thirsty all year round, a Palestinian water expert has said.

Nabil Sharif, chief Palestinian negotiator with Israel on water issues, on Monday said the most acute shortages were in the cities of Hebron, Bethlehem and Jenin.

"The water problem is serious...in Hebron because of shortage of water sources and high consumption," said Mr. Sharif.

The state-owned Israeli water company Mekorot supplies water to Hebron, which is under Israeli rule. The company continues to provide water to six major West Bank cities Israel handed over to Palestinian rule in 1995. Water is one of the key issues in the currently suspended peace talks between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Last year Israel recognised the water rights of Palestinians under the Oslo II peace accord, but no detailed agree-

ment has yet been reached.

Israel delayed a planned deployment in Hebron for security reasons. Hebron is the only West Bank Palestinian city with a Jewish settler population. Some 400 Jews live among more than 100,000 Arabs.

"There are also around 230 villages out of a total 400 in the West Bank which are not connected to water pipelines and have no water," Mr. Sharif told Reuters.

"Some people in some areas still get water from springs in buckets and transfer them to their homes on horseback."

In Hebron, especially in the hilly areas, people can be seen carrying buckets to fill water from nearby springs.

An employee at the Hebron municipality said people wait for days, sometimes weeks for their turn to buy water which is then sent to their homes in tanks. Each tank costs approximately \$50 and lasts about a week.

He said, however, that Jewish settlers in Hebron had an abundance of water.

"The settlers have swim-

ming pools, the government sends them water tanks and their children play with water, while we can't find water to drink. We even have to buy water although we can't afford bread because of bad economic conditions," said the employee who did not want to be identified.

Water expert Taher Nassreddin said water consumption in Hebron reached 22,000 cubic metres daily, but the actual quantity of water pumped to the city, he said, was about 5,000 cubic metres.

"This is a very small quantity of water for around 100,000 people in Hebron, which is almost one quarter of their daily needs," Mr. Nassreddin told Reuters.

An Israeli delegation from the left-wing Meretz Party brought four tanks of water to Hebron on Sunday to distribute to Palestinians. "We came here today to show solidarity with the Palestinians and to fight the Israeli government's policy of providing settlers with water at the expense of the Palestinians," said Meretz member Yoel Vindberg.

## Birzeit University launches sustained archaeological excavation, invites support from interested donors

By Rami G. Khouri  
Special to the Jordan Times

THE PALESTINIAN Institute of Archaeology at Birzeit University has marked a milestone in its plan to develop an indigenous Palestinian archaeological tradition by initiating a long-term field project at Khirbet Birzeit, north of Ramallah in Palestine.

The director of the institute, Khaled Nashif, said on a visit to Amman earlier this week that the project's first season this summer aims to excavate two small areas, conduct an environmental survey of the site, and make a preliminary examination of the standing remains of the central structure.

Though Palestinian scholars have conducted excavations before, this project marks the first sustained, long-

term Palestinian scholarly effort to explore the ancient history and culture of Palestine. The results of the dig will be published by the university, launching a Palestinian tradition of publications based on the evaluation of primary data and original fieldwork.

Dr. Nashif explains that the project still requires financial support to complete this first season. The institute raised \$11,000 and still seeks some \$14,600 to fully fund the planned work. This summer's six-week season runs from July 13 to Aug. 21.

Dr. Nashif lectured in Amman earlier this year upon the invitation of the Jordanian Friends of Archaeology Society (FOA), which is now finalising a cooperation agreement with the Palestinian Institute of Archaeology (PIA) that will see both

institutions exchange lecturers, visits, publications and other services.

The Palestinian Institute of Archaeology's research programme at Khirbet Birzeit, thought to be the original location of Birzeit, is planned as a long-term project. In keeping with the general policy of PIA, the project emphasises environmental aspects much neglected in previous archaeological research.

The project is one of the key elements of PIA's strategy to develop a research framework for its planned higher studies programme.

Khirbet Birzeit is located in the vicinity of Birzeit, some seven kilometres north of Ramallah. At over 800 metres above sea level, it has a commanding view of the surrounding terrain. It overlooks the ancient hill country to the coastal plain. Its archaeological

remains indicate settlement from the Iron Age through the Ottoman period. The dominant and central feature of the site is a 20-metre-wide structure with two barrel-vaulted halls, some of the walls of which appear to have been fortified. The structure was originally ascribed to a date not earlier than the Byzantine period, but subsequently believed to belong to Crusader times. It also appears that some Mamluk elements have been added to the original building. Other ruins on the summit include rock-tombs thought to date to the Iron Age. It has been suggested that there may be Iron Age occupation of the site, possibly underneath the central structure.

It is generally believed that Khirbet Birzeit represents the location of ancient Birzeit attested in the Classical sources as

Berzetho. Dr. Nashif, told the Jordan Times. This assumption finds support in the fact that the modern village of Birzeit used to be called Al Mamsiyye (t), according to some of its older inhabitants. According to Josephus, Berzetho (reflecting Aramaic \*Ber Zetha), apparently corresponding to Birzeit, is the place where Judas Maccabeus pitched his last camp before he was defeated by the Seleucid army in 160 BC. The original report of First Book of the Maccabees diverges strongly from Josephus, presenting a set of problems related to the identification of ancient sites.

Interested donors can contact the institute at Birzeit University at fax 972-2-9957656 or telephone 972-2-9982974, or by post at P.O. Box 14, Birzeit, West Bank, Palestine.

## JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 773111-19

### PROGRAMME TWO

15:00 Iris The Happy Professor  
15:15 Captain Planet  
15:30 Hot Shots  
16:10 Olympia  
17:00 News Flash  
17:02 Sciences Cartoon  
17:15 La Vie Devant  
Moi  
17:30 Game Show  
18:00 Medical Magazine —  
Savoir Plus Sante  
19:00 Le Journal  
19:15 Magazine — Ushuaia  
19:30 News Head-  
lines  
19:35 Blossom  
20:00 Documentary  
20:30 Encounter  
21:10 Star Trek  
22:00 News In English  
22:30 Human Target  
23:15 Hawaii 5-0  
23:45 My Two Wives

### PRAYER TIMES

04:03 Fajr  
05:36 (Sunrise) Duha  
12:41 Dhuhr  
16:22 Asr  
19:47 Maghreb  
21:20 Isha

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church  
Sweifeh, Tel. 810740  
Assemblies of God Church  
Tel. 632785  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624390

### Church of the Annunciation

Tel. 637440.  
De la Salle Church Tel.  
661757.  
Terza Sancta Church Tel.  
623366  
Anglican Church Tel. 652826.  
Armenian Catholic Church  
Tel. 771331.  
Armenian Orthodox Church  
Tel. 775261.  
St. Ephraim Church Tel.  
771751.  
Amman International Church  
Tel. 652536  
Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Tel. 824328.  
German-speaking Evangelical  
Congregation Tel. 845457  
The Latter-Day Saints Tel.  
654932.  
Church of Nazarene Tel.  
675691.  
The Evangelical Local Church  
in Amman Tel. 811295  
English-speaking  
Latin Catholics Parish Tel.  
614190.

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department  
of Meteorology.  
Moderate weather conditions  
will prevail with northwesterly  
moderate to active. In Aqaba,  
winds will be northerly moderate  
to active and seas calm.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### Min./Max. temp.

Amman ..... 13/30  
Aqaba ..... 24/38  
Deserts ..... 17/33  
Jordan Valley ..... 23/36  
Yesterday's high temperatures:  
Amman 29, Aqaba 36 Humidity  
readings: Amman 43 per cent,  
Aqaba 37 per cent.

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY  
AMMAN:  
Dr. Jamal Jbarah ..... 847351  
Dr. Abbas Al Hakim ..... 855446  
Dr. Arafat Al Ashhab ..... 602507  
Dr. Mohammad Al Izzah  
778959  
Ferdows pharmacy ..... 778336  
Al Asema pharmacy ..... 637055  
Al Salam pharmacy ..... 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy ..... 644945  
Shmeisani pharmacy ..... 637660  
Nalroukh pharmacy ..... 623672  
Najib pharmacy ..... 847632  
IRBID:  
Dr. Mazin Abu Bakir ..... 276852  
Al Quds pharmacy ..... (—)  
ZARQA:  
Dr. Hilal Al Sayyid ..... 986702  
Khalifeh pharmacy ..... 985417  
EMERGENCIES  
Food Control Centre ..... 637111  
Civil Defence Dept ..... 661111  
Civil Defence Immediate Res-

### cue

630341  
Civil Defence Emergency ..... 199  
Rescue Police 192, 621111,  
637777  
Fire Brigade ..... 617101  
Blood Bank ..... 775121  
Highway Police ..... 843402  
Traffic Police ..... 896390  
Public Security Department  
630321  
Hotel Complaints ..... 605800  
Price Complaints ..... 661176  
Water and Sewerage Com-  
plaints ..... 897467  
Amman Municipality Com-  
plaints ..... 787111  
Telephone Information (direc-  
tory assistance) ..... 121  
Overseas Calls ..... 010230  
Central Amman Telephone  
Reparis ..... 623101  
Abdali Telephone Repairs  
661101  
Jordan Television ..... 773111  
Radio Jordan ..... 774111  
Water Authority ..... 680100  
Jordan Electricity Authority  
815615  
Electric Power Company  
636381  
RJ Flight Information 08-  
53200  
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-  
53200

### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Hussein Medical Centre

### ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights  
08:00 ..... Damascus (RJ)  
08:15 ..... Sanaa (RJ)  
10:15 ..... Abu Dhabi, Al Ain (RJ)  
10:20 ..... Beirut (RJ)  
10:35 ..... Muscat, Dubai (RJ)  
10:50 ..... Doha, Bahrain (RJ)  
14:05 ..... New York  
(RJ)  
17:20 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
17:30 ..... London (RJ)  
17:40 ..... Frankfurt (RJ)  
18:25 Chicago, Amsterdam (RJ)  
Other Flights  
05:40 ..... London (BA)  
09:15 ..... Cairo (MS)  
13:40 ..... Abu Dhabi (GF)  
14:00 ..... Riyadh (SV)  
14:00 ..... Munich (YP)  
16:00 ..... Rome (AZ)  
16:30 ..... Dubai (EK)  
19:35 ..... Amsterdam (KL)  
20:20 ..... London (BA)  
20:20 ..... Aden (IY)  
21:10 ..... Beirut (ME)  
22:00 ..... Tel Aviv (LY)  
00:55 ..... Bucharest (RO)  
03:00 ..... Kuwait (KL)  
03:00 ..... Royal Wings (RW) Flights  
09:50 ..... Aqaba (RW)  
19:45 ..... Tel Aviv (RW)

### DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights  
06:35 ..... Beirut (RJ)  
09:30 ..... Amsterdam, New York  
(RJ)  
12:10 Vienna, Frankfurt (RJ)

### ARRIVALS

12:15 Amsterdam, Montreal,  
Toronto (RJ)  
13:00 ..... Geneva, Brussels  
(RJ)  
13:10 ..... Paris (RJ)  
13:15 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
14:05 ..... London (RJ)  
14:55 ..... Madrid (RJ)  
21:10 ..... Larnaca (RJ)  
21:20 ..... Jeddah (RJ)  
21:45 ..... Damascus (RJ)  
21:45 ..... Bahrain, Doha (RJ)  
22:20 ..... Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)  
22:30 Kuala Lumpur, Singapore  
(RJ)  
Other Flights  
08:45 ..... Beirut (ME)  
09:15 ..... London (BA)  
10:15 ..... Cairo (MS)  
14:30 Abu Dhabi, Al Ain Mus-  
cat (GF)  
15:30 ..... Riyadh (SV)  
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17:00 ..... Rome (AZ)  
17:30 ..... Dubai (EK)  
20:45 ..... Kuwait (KL)  
21:20 ..... Aden (IY)  
23:10 ..... Tel Aviv (LY)  
01:55 ..... Bucharest (RO)  
04:00 ..... Amsterdam (KL)  
Royal Wings (RW) Flights  
10:00 Aqaba (Marka Airport  
(RW)  
20:30 Aqaba (Marka Airport  
proceeding to QAIA) (RW)

### HUJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

Dep. Amman 8:00 a.m. every

### Monday

Arr. Damascus 5:00 p.m. every  
Monday  
Dep. Damascus 7:30 a.m.  
every Sunday  
Arr. Amman 5:00 p.m. every  
Sunday

### MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Jds per kg.  
Apricot ..... 850/900  
Apple ..... 700/800  
Banana ..... 600/600  
Banana (mukhammar) ..... 520/520  
Banana (imported) ..... 830/600  
Cabbage ..... 210/140  
Carrot ..... 130/80  
Cauliflower ..... 240/160  
Cucumber (large) ..... 140/80  
Cucumber (small) ..... 240/140  
Eggplant ..... 200/120  
Garlic ..... 650/400  
Lemon ..... 680/450  
Marrow (large) ..... 200/120  
Marrow (small) ..... 330/200  
Mulukhiyah ..... 150/100  
Onion (dry) ..... 130/80  
Okra ..... 750/500  
Orange ..... 400/300  
Plum ..... 330/200  
Pea ..... 380/250  
Peach ..... 670/400  
Pepper (hot) ..... 340/220  
Pepper (sweet) ..... 320/220  
Potato ..... 270/180  
String Bean ..... 450/250  
Sweet melon ..... 190/140  
Tomato ..... 110/70  
Water melon ..... 110/70



*Amman tel 636517*



## Burmese minister: Gatherings at Suu Kyi's house is legal

JAKARTA (R) — Weekly gatherings at the home of Burmese democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi are legal as long as they are peaceful and no papers are disseminated, Burma's Foreign Minister Ohn Gya said Monday.

"According to the law introduced on June 7, the gatherings in front of her house are not against the law. Drafting a parallel constitution is against the law," he told a news conference on the sidelines of the ASEAN regional security forum.

Ms. Suu Kyi was released in July 1995 from six years house arrest. She has met with leaders of her National League for Democracy (NLD) almost daily since then, but the gatherings outside her gate grew so large she now addresses the public only on weekends.

"If there are certain attempts to distribute papers or groups protesting this and that, for the sake of law and order that will have to be answered," Mr. Ohn Gya said. He did not specify what kind of papers he meant.

"But gathering in front of the house and listening to whatever talk is going on is not an offense," he said.

In May the Nobel Peace Prize winner called a meeting of the NLD and the military government arrested nearly 250 party members in an attempt to prevent it. The congress was held in her lakeside compound despite the arrests.



Burmese opposition leader and 1991 Nobel Peace laureate Aung San Suu Kyi addresses the crowd outside her Rangoon house Sunday. Thousands of people attended the regular weekend gathering which went on without interference from ruling military government (Reuters photo)

Mr. Ohn Gya said the May crackdown was to prevent the NLD from holding a convention to draft a "parallel constitution."

A national convention carefully screened by Burma's generals has been drafting a new constitution

since January 1993 that would enshrine a leading role in government for the military under a president and a bicameral legislature.

Mr. Ohn Gya also said that Leo Nichols, an honorary consul for several Scandinavian countries, had

died in custody on June 22 because of something he ate.

Nichols, who was close to Ms. Suu Kyi and was a Burmese citizen, ate something that "was not compatible with his health. He collapsed, was sent to the hospital and passed away," he said.

The European Union (EU) Monday expressed its concerns to the Rangoon government over the situation in Burma but agreed to further dialogue, Irish Foreign Minister Dick Spring said.

Mr. Spring, as chairman of the EU council of ministers, met Mr. Ohn Gya for just under 30 minutes as part of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) taking place this week in Jakarta.

The EU in a July 5 declaration said it was "deeply concerned at the continued deterioration of the political situation in Burma."

"I conveyed the views of the European Union based on the declaration of the 5th of July and we had an exchange of views based on that," Mr. Spring told reporters following the meeting.

Mr. Spring said the meeting had been "a useful opportunity to have a dialogue between the EU and Burma" and he spoke of the possibility of further meetings.

He said the EU would not oppose Burma's entry into the ARF, which holds a formal session Tuesday.

## Taiwan will not use force in island dispute with Japan

TAIPEI (AFP) — Taiwan will try to settle a territorial dispute over the Diaoyu Islands with Japan peacefully and not resort to military means despite strong public pressure, a Foreign Ministry official said Monday.

"The government will by peaceful means continue to communicate and negotiate with Japan with dignity over the issue," Foreign Ministry spokesman Rock Leng told reporters here.

Taiwan Governor James Soong said Sunday that China should use its military force to deter foreign claims on Chinese territory instead of menacing Taiwan.

However, he backtracked Monday, saying: "If the Chinese Communists are determined to uphold the integrity of Chinese territory, they should show certain reactions, but this does not mean I support settlement of the dispute by irrational and non-peaceful means."

Nationalistic outcry over Japan's ownership claim over the Diaoyu Islands in the East China Sea, referred to in Japanese as the Senkaku Group, has been growing since a right-wing Japanese group built a lighthouse on one of the rocky islets.

The Diaoyu Group consists of 6.3 square kilometres of rocky islets and is located 102 nautical miles northeast of Taiwan and 240 nautical miles west of Japan's Okinawa.

Tokyo has claimed the islands, which are believed to be rich in hydrocarbons and fall within its 200-nautical mile exclusive economic zone, but this has been disputed by both Taiwan and China.

The cautious approach came after demands by deputies in Taiwan's National Assembly for the government to "use its fist to take back the islands," and a local right-wing group's protest in front of Japan's representative office here.

Legislator Liu Yi-Teh asked the government during an assembly session Monday for the formation of a "volunteer force" to take back the islands, gaining support from his peers.

Dozens of members and supporters of the far-right Society of Patriotism in one mind demonstrated in front of the Interchange Association, which represents Japanese interests here in the absence of diplomatic relations.

Chou Ching-Chun, chairman of the society, confronted police who stopped his group from pelting the association's office with eggs.

Mr. Chou burned a Japanese flag and read a protest letter addressed to an official at the office.

"The building of the lighthouse on our territory is obviously a revival of military expansionism in Japan," the letter said.

"If Japan fails to check this, we will join people in Hong Kong and Macau to stage a large-scale protest at Japan's general consulate office in Hong Kong," the letter added.

Growing nationalism has spread to Taiwan's fishermen with the Keelung and Nanfeng fishing unions saying they planned to mobilise a flotilla to fish the waters around the disputed islands and challenge Tokyo's sovereignty claim. They called on the government to send Marine Police to protect their "legal fishing actions."

Mr. Leng said his ministry has not been informed of the fishermen's plans, adding that if their action provoked a Japanese reaction then "the government has no way to stop it or to prevent it."

Interior Minister Lin Feng-Cheng, however, told reporters separately that his ministry would assign Marine Police to work with the Council of Agriculture in escorting the fishermen if the flotilla goes ahead.

Mr. Lin called on parliament to quickly pass a law to enforce a 200-nautical mile economic zone.

He also said he had not received any information on a plan by officials in northeastern Taiwan, to which Taipei has granted jurisdiction over the islands, to send a work force to demolish the lighthouse.

Pro-China teachers in Hong Kong braved a tropical storm to march to Japan's consulate Monday, delivering a protest "lesson" about Tokyo's claims to the disputed Diaoyu Islands, which Beijing says are Chinese.

With shouts of "Japanese go home," the action by a small group of local teachers was the latest episode in a growing territorial row over the islands.

## Pakistan airport bomb kills 8, injures 13

LAHORE, Pakistan (AFP) — At least eight people were killed and 13 injured Monday when a bomb exploded in a passenger lounge at Lahore International Airport, in the ninth terror attack in Pakistan in little more than three months, police said.

Ambulances were taking casualties to hospital, witnesses at the airport said.

"The blast was caused by a bomb," a police official said, adding that according to preliminary information the device had been left in the lounge in a bag close to the civil aviation office, as domestic passengers waited for a flight.

"I heard an ear-splitting blast and saw screaming people scrambling out, their clothes soaked in blood," said a taxi driver, Abdul Jabbar, who was at the airport to pick up passengers.

A security official said the lounge was littered with pieces of human flesh and limbs following the explosion.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the explosion, the first at an airport in the country after a series of blasts since the middle of April that have claimed more than 80 lives.

Previous attacks have targeted passenger buses, a railway station, a hospital and small hotels — all in the densely-populated central province of Punjab.

The previous explosion occurred at a railway station in the industrial city of Faisalabad on July 8, claiming two lives and injuring 30 people.

A bomb exploded on April 14 at a cancer hospital in Lahore run by cricketer-turned-politician Imran Khan, killing six people. An explosion aboard a bus at Bhaji Phero near Lahore on April 28 left 52 people dead.

Eight people died in a bus blast in Sheikhupura on May 8 and one person was killed when a bomb exploded at a post office in Lahore on May 26.

On June 10, eight people were killed in three simultaneous blasts in Gujranwala district, while two died in a bus explosion in Kharian town on June 16.



Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin gestures inviting Alexander Lebed, secretary of the Russian Security Council, to take a seat prior to their meeting Monday. Gen. Lebed is expected to visit breakaway Chechnya possibly this week, according to reports (Reuters photo)

## Weather halts Russian air attack on Chechen village

MOSCOW (AFP) — Bad weather halted a new round of bombardments by Russian warplanes on separatist rebel positions around the southeastern Chechen village of Shatoi Monday, the Russian command said.

Russian troops launched a massive offensive Saturday on what commanders said was a base of between 250 and 300 rebel guerrillas high up in the southern mountain region of the republic.

Separatists say they have between 100 and 150 fighters in the area.

Forces command, quoted by ITAR-TASS, said air attacks had been largely suspended Monday because of rain and fog, but said ground troops were carrying out reconnaissance and regrouping for a new assault.

The villages in the southeastern mountains are the last bastions of the separatists and many of their inhabitants have fled the bombing.

Both sides have also accused the other of planting mines in conflict zones in the republic. Two Russian soldiers died Sunday near Achkhof-Martian in western Chechnya in a mine blast. Interfax reported.

Meanwhile Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin met security supremo Alexander Lebed Monday for talks on Chechnya, national security and the social and economic situation, Interfax News Agency said.

The agency gave no details of the talks, held against a background of renewed fighting in breakaway Chechnya since President Boris Yeltsin won a second term on July 3.

Fighting also broke out Sunday in the village of Agushbat, near the rebel stronghold of Vedeno, during "passport check operations," Russian commanders said Monday.

They said troops destroyed a lorry carrying arms, an ammunition dump and an anti-aircraft rocket launcher belonging to separatist guerrillas.

Forces command, quoted by ITAR-TASS, said two Russian troops died and seven were injured in the operation.

Between Tuesday and Friday, Russian forces rained bombs on the regions of Shatoi, Irum-Khale, Mekhety and Vedeno, all still under separatist control.

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The meeting between Mr. Chernomyrdin and Gen. Lebed has attracted particular interest because of media reports of rivalry between them as Mr. Yeltsin, recovering from the strain of an election campaign, stays out of the public eye.

Gen. Lebed, brought into the Kremlin by Mr. Yeltsin as secretary of the powerful Russian Security Council on June 18, has suggested he would like the post of vice-president revived and has claimed a role in overseeing economic policy.

But Mr. Chernomyrdin, prime minister since December 1992 and the person who constitutionally would take over temporarily if Mr. Yeltsin was incapacitated, has dismissed the idea of reviving the vice-presidency and said he will not surrender any of his own powers.

He has also dismissed repeated forecasts by Gen. Lebed of an approaching financial crisis in Russia this autumn.

Mr. Yeltsin, 65, who is at a sanatorium undergoing medical tests after a tiring campaign for reelection, has named Mr. Chernomyrdin to continue as prime minister in his second term.

He will require approval for this from the State Duma, the parliamentary lower house in which his Communist adversaries have a strong representation.

Interfax said Mr. Yeltsin, to be inaugurated in office on August 9, had discussed formation of a new government with Constitutional Court Chairman Vladimir Tumanov Monday, but gave no details.

## Japanese boy, 14, starts lone Pacific sailing bid

TOKYO (R) — A 14-year-old Japanese boy set sail from Tokyo Monday bidding to become the youngest person to make a solo crossing of the Pacific Ocean. Subaru Takahashi, from Shirone in central Japan, hopes to make the 8,288 kilometres voyage from Tokyo Bay to San Francisco in 50 days. His nine-metre yacht Advantage is stocked with food and water for 60 days and equipped with a system to locate its position via satellite. Takahashi began canoeing at the age of five and took up sailing when he was 10. "Nobody who has known Subaru since his childhood will be surprised to hear of the trans-Pacific voyage," his father Hiroo Takahashi told reporters at a departure ceremony for the voyage.

## Everest widow gives birth to baby girl

WELLINGTON (R) — The widow of New Zealand climber Rob Hall, who died in a blizzard near the summit of Mount Everest, has given birth to his baby daughter, friends said Monday. Hall's wife Jan Arnold spoke to him by a phone and radio link as he lay dying of exposure and frostbite in May near the top of the world's highest mountain. She said at the time she was comforted that Hall knew the sex of the baby and that the two of them had chosen a name.

Friend Betty Montehat said the baby, born Sunday, would be called Sarah. Hall, 35, the only non-Sherpa to climb Everest five times, had stayed at the rear of his party to assist a struggling fellow climber, who also perished.

He has also dismissed repeated forecasts by Gen. Lebed of an approaching financial crisis in Russia this autumn.

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## Angolan deminers uncover killing fields

SOYO, Angola (R) — The remains of more than 50 possible massacre victims have been found in northern Angola during mine-clearing operations and hundreds more could still be unearthed, an official of a demining company said.

Anacleto Teixeira, regional director of the company Teleservices, told Reuters during a visit to the area over the weekend that local residents believed the re-mains were victims of massacres during the civil war.

"We began finding the skeletons three weeks ago," he said. More than

50 were found, including 20 last Thursday, he added. "As we open up the area we are finding more and more. The local population has told us about 500 people were executed here, mostly police and civilians."

"People say they could not come close to the dump because of the smell (of rotting bodies)," Mr. Teixeira said.

A local resident told Reuters the remains could be those of government supporters caught in the area when it was overrun by rebel UNITA guerrillas in May 1993.

The remains are being found in a field at Kwanda Base, a residential and administrative zone for foreign oil companies working in the Soyo region on the border with Zaire.

Teleservices workers found a cargo container in the area which they said appeared to have been used as a torture chamber. It has 11 rubber nooses suspended from the ceiling and names are scribbled on the walls.

In the area that has been cleared of mines, small piles of human bones and skulls have been gathered and are marked with flags.

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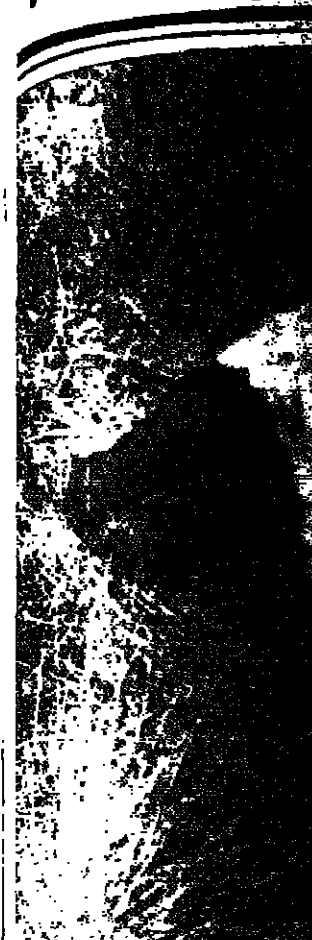
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Little boys lie dead with their parents in Burundi. The latest war in the country has killed some 300,000 people.

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# World News

Japanese boy starts lone Pacific sailing bid



Everest widow gives birth to girl

n air llage

gives birth to girl



Two little boys lie dead within the Tutsi displaced camp of Bugendana which was attacked early by Hutu rebels

who killed some 300 mostly women and children (Reuter photo)

## Burundi to bury massacred Tutsis, expels refugees

NAIROBI (R) — Burundi was in national mourning Monday for more than 300 massacred Tutsis, the latest victims of ethnic war in the Central African country.

Prime Minister Antoine Nduwayo announced a week-long period of mourning during which flags will fly at half-mast.

The army meanwhile stepped up forced expulsions of thousands of Rwandan Hutu refugees.

A mass funeral for the Tutsis, killed at Bugendana in the central Gitega region Saturday in an attack blamed on Hutu rebels, will be held on Tuesday, the premier's office said.

Anti-Hutu feelings rose in the capital Bujumbura, where thousands of Tutsis took to the streets Sunday to protest against the massacre of the 304 Tutsis.

President Sylvestre Ntibunganya, a Hutu, broke his silence and condemned the killings Sunday night.

"This tragedy adds to what has been happening to the Burundian people at an increasing rate since March this year," Mr. Ntibunganya said in a broadcast monitored in Nairobi.

"Those who perpetrate the massacres claim they are fighting for the restoration of democracy or rehabilitation of the Hutu ethnic group."

"But who can support the idea that the elderly people, women and children targeted by the criminals constitute the real obstacle to democracy and rehabilitation of all components of the Burundian nation without discrimination?" he said.

The exiled Hutu rebel National Council for the Defence of Democracy (CNDD) has been blamed for the attack it has denied responsibility.

CNDD and its armed wing FDD (Forces for the Defence of Democracy) are fighting a guerrilla war in Burundi against the Tutsi-dominated army with growing success.

In another twist to the central African, aid workers said Burundi's Tutsi-dominated army continued expulsions of Rwandan Hutu refugees overnight.

They said Ephraim Kabajja, a senior aide to Rwandan President Pasteur Bizimungu, was in Burundi to coordinate the operation, which has been denounced by the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

UNHCR officials said up to 4,500 Rwandan Hutus had been forcibly expelled to Rwanda since Friday. More were moved in the night but figures were not available.

"I expect movements to continue in the night. They will continue with whatever means they have," UNHCR spokesman Paul Stromberg told Reuters from the Rwandan capital Kigali.

In Nairobi, the exiled Hutu lobby group — the Rally for the Return of Refugees and Democracy in Rwanda (RDR), which claims to represent nearly two million of Rwanda's Hutu refugees — condemned the operation.

"RDR expresses its anger, utter disbelief and indignation at the current horrifying deportation of Rwandan refugees in Burundi. Its brutality and the intoxication surrounding it can only highlight the level of complicity between Burundi and Rwanda," a statement said.

The ethnic war in Burundi mirrors the 1994 bloodshed in Rwanda, where a million people, mainly Tutsis, were killed in a Hutu campaign of genocide.

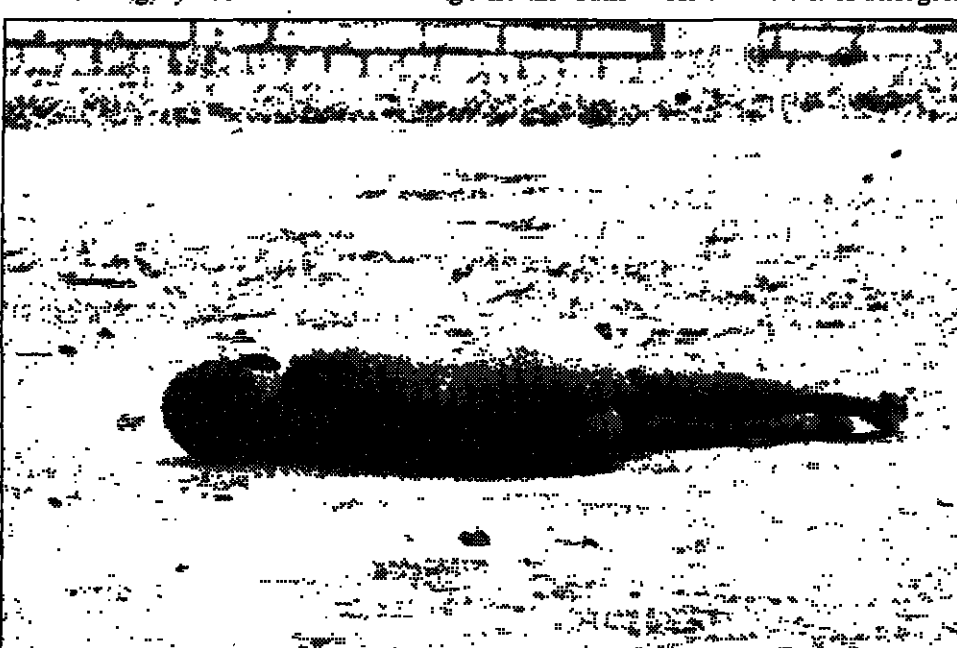
Burundi is home to 75,000 Rwandan Hutu refugees, among 1.7 million who fled to neighbouring countries in fear of revenge after the genocide.

More than 150,000 people have been killed in three years of warfare in Burundi and about 1,000 are dying each month, many of them civilians.

Meanwhile Zaire's foreign minister said Sunday he would seek fresh regional peace talks with troubled neighbours Rwanda and Burundi within the framework of the Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries (CEPGL).

Dismissing the efforts of the U.N. International Tribunal on Genocide in Rwanda, Kitiwa Tumansi said that he would press for talks in the next few days on returning peace to the region.

Earlier, he said talks planned for Saturday between Zaire and Rwanda's Tutsi-dominated government on the return home of up to a million Rwandan Hutu refugees had been postponed because Rwandan officials had had transport problems.



The body of a child lies dead in a Tutsi camp in central Burundi. Witnesses at the Bugendana camp counted more than 300 dead Tutsis and 100 injured after an attack blamed on Hutu rebels (Reuter photo)

## Helicopters ferry aid for Bangladesh flood victims

DHAKA (AFP) — Air force helicopters were ferrying aid Monday to flood victims in northern Bangladesh, where more than 2.2 million people were affected, government officials said.

Two MI-17 helicopters with a two tonne cargo capacity were airlifting aid to the worst-hit regions, said Kazi Mohammad Mohsin, a Defence Ministry spokesman.

"They are carrying aid from point-to-point and leaving it with local officials wherever there is dry ground," he said.

Army and paramilitary troops are also working around the clock along with the civil administration, officials said.

The floods, the second since early June, struck half of Bangladesh, leaving nine people dead by official count, said Rafiqul Islam, a spokesman for the Relief Ministry.

The unofficial toll stood at 36 in more than two months of flooding. Five people were reported killed Sunday, including two children by drowning. Others fell victims to snake bites.

Authorities said the overall situation in most of the 33 flooded districts was "either static or improving."

The government's flood forecasting centre said some areas, including the capital Dhaka and southern Bangladesh, could face worsening conditions as rushing waters made their way to the Bay of Bengal.

But there were signs of improvement in the worst-hit northern sector of the country, they said.

Opposition politicians have criticised government relief efforts as inadequate, leading a government official to respond, "it is never enough... we send relief on the basis of reports and requirements from individual districts."

He said government aid includes rice, biscuits, cash and clothes, and were in addition to those from the Red Crescent Society and other private development organisations who have offices in the areas.

Medical teams were also treating victims, mostly for fever or intestinal disorders, Mr. Islam said.

The annual flooding is caused by monsoon rains and run off from the hills in India.



A family stranded by devastating floods cooks food on the doorstep of their swamped house in Nurpur village near Dhaka Monday. Meteorology officials say the flooding which has already killed at least 40 people may spread further (Reuter photo)

## Sri Lanka voices anxiety over troops at key base

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lankan military officials expressed anxiety over the fate of troops at a key army camp Monday, saying there was no sign they were still there after an attack by Tamil Tiger rebels that began five days ago.

"The situation is not too good at all," a senior military official told Reuters, adding that there had been no radio contact with the camp for some time. "What we can see from the air and what we hear on radio indicates there is no one there at the camp. We don't know what has happened to the troops who were there."

Army reinforcements landed south of the Mullaitivu Camp, 280 kilometres from Colombo, had still not reached the base because of heavy rebel resistance, officials said.

But Deputy Defence Minister Anuruddha Ratwatte told a news conference earlier Monday that troops who survived Thursday's attack were still holding part of the camp, although he was unable to give casualty figures.

"Some of our troops are on location in the camp. We aim to take full control of the entire camp and relieve troops holding it," Gen. Ratwatte said.

Tamil Tiger rebels said Monday they had killed more than 1,200 Sri Lankan troops in the battle for the key northeastern army camp and had surrounded reinforcements sent to rescue the besieged garrison.

A statement from the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) said more than 1,200 troops have so far been killed in the fight for the Mullaitivu Army Camp, regarded as the bloodiest battle in years.

It said 241 rebels, including 68 women, had died.

"Last evening, with great difficulty the government troops made a seaborne landing in the area," the statement from the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) said. "Our fighters have surrounded the troops and are pounding them with mortar fire."

An army official said the LTTE claim that government troops were surrounded was exaggerated.

"They have always claimed some contrived victory or invincibility even when they are on the run," he told Reuters.

The army's tentative figures showed some 300 troops killed with another 200 wounded from the latest upsurge in Sri Lanka's 13-year old ethnic war. It said more than 300 rebels had been killed by Saturday.

Military officials said earlier Monday that reinforcements were hoping to link up with the camp, 280 kilometres from Colombo, which overlooks a strategic seaport to Jaffna.

Western diplomats said the battle probably stemmed from the army's capture of northern Jaffna town, headquarters of the LTTE, in April. The fighting has dashed government hopes that peace was at hand after the fall of Jaffna.

"The main supply route to Jaffna is through the sea," a Western diplomat told Reuters. "If Mullaitivu falls to the rebels, it could hit a vital link to Jaffna."

Troop reinforcements have been battling to reach Mullaitivu since about 3,000 separatist LTTE guerrillas stormed the strategic base early Thursday.

A rebel statement Monday said the Tigers had handed over the bodies of 441 soldiers killed in the battle to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Sunday.

The army said Monday that the ICRC had handed over 55 of the bodies. The ICRC also confirmed it had handed over a number of bodies but declined to give firm figures.

A rebel newspaper seen in Vavuniya Sunday said more than 300 bodies of slain troops had decomposed beyond recognition and an LTTE statement said they were being cremated in Mullaitivu.

A navy official said heavy fighting was going on between the reinforcements and LTTE rebels, seeking an independent homeland for minority Tamils in the Indian Ocean island's north and east.

The rebels sank a government naval vessel with some 40 sailors aboard Friday, and downed an air force helicopter Saturday, police and LTTE sources said.

State-run radio said Saturday the upsurge in fighting had forced President Chandrika Kumaratunga to cut short a private visit to London.

The latest attacks come a week before the 13th anniversary of island-wide anti-Tamil riots that sparked the ethnic conflict in which the government says more than 50,000 people have died.

The LTTE said its leader, Velupillai Prabhakaran, was personally supervising the assault on Mullaitivu, which it said was fully under rebel control. The army has denied this claim.

## Clinton plans to target child-support 'deadbeats'

DENVER, Colorado (R) — President Bill Clinton planned Monday to announce ways to "track down and crack down" on parents behind on their child-support payments by using the Internet, White House aides said.

Mr. Clinton was to announce the measure as part of a three-day campaign trip to Colorado and California that is mostly a series of private fund-raising events that will raise nearly \$5 million for democratic candidates.

The president has already taken action to increase collection of child support from so-called deadbeat parents with an executive order setting up a computer database to track fathers or mothers behind on their payments as they move from job to job. He also cracked down on federal workers who owe child support back payments.

White House spokesman Mike McCurry said Mr. Clinton would announce some "creative uses of the Internet to help track down and crack down on those who skip out on their child support obligations."

Monday's announcement was expected to be an initiative to link up states that already publish mug shots of deadbeat parents on the Internet to give them a wider circulation, as well as using post offices for the same purpose, aides said.

"It's to shame people into paying," one White House official said.

Mr. Clinton was also expected to offer some child support enforcement proposals that were outlined in his 1994 Welfare Reform Bill, which failed to pass Congress, aides said.

Mr. Clinton's western swing came at a time when the president is in a commanding position in public opinion polls, enjoying a big lead over Republican presidential candidate Bob Dole. He leads Sen. Dole in Colorado and, according to a poll last week, has a 27-point lead over Sen. Dole in California.

On Sunday night Mr. Clinton attended three events, two of them private. The first was at the manicured home of Mary Frances Kelley in suburban Aurora, where he presided over a roundtable discussion devoted to women's issues.

He then raised \$750,000 at a \$10,000-a-couple fund-raiser at the luxurious home of Democratic activist Micky Miller. Afterward he raised another \$100,000 from about 800 young Democrats making up the Saxophone Club.

In his remarks there, Mr. Clinton urged the young Democrats to think in terms of the future — how they want the country to look in the 21st century — with racial equality, economic growth and a clean environment as their goals.

"Imagine what you'd like your country to look like when your children are your age," Mr. Clinton said. "This is not about me or the vice-president or Senator Dole. It's about what this country is going to look like in the 21st century."

Sen. Dole turns 73 Monday. Mr. Clinton will have his 50th birthday next month, and he played to his audience's youth by saying he often watches the Science Fiction Channel on cable television and hopes to avoid the type of environmentally devastated world depicted in many science-fiction movies.

Mr. Clinton was to move on to California after making his welfare reform speech at Denver's Buell Theatre, and over two days he will visit Los Angeles, Sacramento and San Francisco.

It will be his 25th trip to the state since he took office in January 1993, and aides said he planned to come back to campaign often in spite of his big lead in the crucial state, whose 54 electoral votes are more than any other state's.

"We can't let up," White House Political Affairs Director Doug Sosnick said.

There was increasingly talk that Mr. Clinton would return to California on vacation while the Republicans held their nominating convention on Aug. 12-15. The likeliest site seemed to be Lake Tahoe, with Yosemite National Park a possibility as well.

The CBS News/New York Times poll found that concerns about Sen. Dole's age were especially high among voters of his own generation. Sen. Dole, the all-but-certain Republican nominee who celebrates his birthday Monday, would be the oldest U.S. president elected to a first term if he beats President Clinton.

For those over age 65, what worries them about his age is whether he has the stamina to do the job, according to the poll of 979 adults interviewed July 11 to 13.

## Australian premier wins battle for gun laws

SYDNEY (AFP) — Prime Minister John Howard won his battle for tougher uniform Australia-wide gun laws Monday after the West Australian government finally fell into line with other states and territories.

A decision of the West Australian cabinet to support the crackdown in the aftermath of the Tasmanian massacre came only hours from a deadline imposed by Mr. Howard.

He gave three recalcitrant governments until Monday to accept the reforms or risk a national referendum to transfer responsibility for gun control from the states and territories to Canberra.

But West Australian Premier Richard Court said Monday his cabinet's decision was based on what was practical and had nothing to do with Mr. Howard's threat to call a referendum if the six states and two territories did not fall into line.

Mr. Court described Mr. Howard's threat as "childish" and said it did not benefit a man of his office.

But he added: "You have to have give and take and when you are looking for national uniform gun laws there is always going to be some issues that all states don't agree on."

Final state legislation would be introduced into state parliament in the spring.

Mr. Howard had won the support of all states and territories on May 10 for new laws making gun ownership more difficult and banning all semi-automatic weapons.

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### Where water flows ...

JORDANIANS ARE discovering everyday that they have been doing the wrong thing for the wrong reason for a long time.

After the shock brought about by the much belated government decision to lift subsidy on bread prices, the people are increasingly becoming aware of another impending crisis, water. Unlike bread, however, water cannot, so far, be imported. The government announced earlier this week that it was facing a water deficit for domestic use of 25 per cent. Translated into figures that deficit stands at 55 million cubic metres (mcm).

What is so bizarre about this revelation is that water for domestic use, i.e. consumption at home, is only about one-fourth of water used for agriculture, which stands at 730 mcm. The absurd fact here is that agriculture contributes only less than seven per cent of our gross domestic product (GDP) and employs just about seven per cent of the workforce, mostly guest workers.

There is a myth that many Jordanians believe, and some even propagate, particularly newspaper writers and columnists; it is that Jordan could be self-sufficient in food production. The persistent columns on this issue, coupled with a strong farmers' lobby, keep the myth alive. This of course is not true. The Jordanian soil, to start with, is not as fertile as Europe's or that in many parts of Asia.

Rainfall is very low; it is at an average of about 300 millimetres a year. And surface water resources are becoming scarcer every year: the water table is reducing at the rate of one metre per annum.

The government, aware of all these facts, recently raised the price of water for consumers. The price for irrigation was pushed up from six fils per cubic metre to 15. Rates of water for domestic consumption were also increased, although the cost for the first category remained only a tiny fraction of the second.

The prime minister on Sunday decided to form a national committee to discuss problems in the agricultural sector. According to one member, Minister of Agriculture Mustafa Shneikat, the committee would discuss "all matters related to agriculture" but especially "difficulties that impede marketing (produce) locally and abroad." Considering that Dr. Shneikat is a strong proponent of a strengthened agricultural sector, his words mean that more emphasis will be put on the importance of agriculture, which in turn means more allocation of water resources to this sector.

This can be hardly the right step to take. Since even Israel, which has more water and technological resources at its disposal is not gaining much from its advanced agricultural sector, we think that Jordan should rethink its approach in a more scientific and objective manner. The whole issue should be debated at an experts' level conference that could answer the critical questions that do have to be asked.

The question is not about agriculture, it is about water resources, their availability, renewability, quality and certainly the cost involved in tapping them.

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A WRITER for Al Dustour said much of the promised economic development which the governments of Jordan had promised to achieve never happened. Since the peace treaty with Israel was signed, Jordanians have seen deteriorating economy, more taxes, end of subsidy on bread and continued rise in prices of various commodities, including the basic foodstuffs, said Taher Adwan. Had we received the promised grants and soft loans from the donor nations, like Europe and Japan, we would have been living in paradise, but regrettably many of the promises and pledges were not honoured and the situation is worsening, he said.

THE ARRIVAL in the Middle East of the French Foreign Minister Hervé de Charette signals a new effort on the part of the French government to give momentum to the peace process, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily Monday. The French minister's tour is part of the diplomatic offensive which was started by Jordan to put the peace process once again back on track after the stalemate that has paralysed the negotiations between Israel and the Arab countries, said the paper. His arrival in Amman coincides with a new shuttle diplomacy in the region by the U.S. Middle East envoy Denis Ross who is also planning to discuss the resumption of negotiations and break the deadlock, according to the daily. Indeed, it said, the American and the French initiatives complement one another and together they complement Jordan's endeavours and Egypt's moves at the regional level to help establish a comprehensive peace.

### The View from Fourth Circle

By Rami G. Khouri

## The price of bread, the currency of modernism and the cost of progress

The prolonged controversy about the government's decision to raise the price of bread and to redirect its subsidies to the neediest Jordanians has only something to do with bread prices, but much more to do with Jordanian politics today.

The government must be given very high marks for its political courage to face up to the economic realities and to take the hard decisions required to put our country on a track of sustainable economic growth; its track record on economic reform is impressive indeed. But, the government should be given very low marks for the partly amateurish, partly autocratic manner in which it handled the political aspects of the bread price issue.

The decision to reduce the government's wheat and bread subsidy was correct, and we should commend the government for: a) continuing to reduce the government deficit by lowering the public fiscal burden and b) equally important though partly hidden amidst the controversy, for injecting a rather impressive social component into public economic policy making in the decision to target cash grants to the poorest and lowest income Jordanians. If this long overdue social targeting of government support marks the start of a coherent public policy of addressing the needs of the poor while reducing the capacity of wealthy Jordanians to benefit from government largesse, it should be recognised and applauded as a huge achievement of the Kabarti government.

The government bordered on incompetence, however, in its political handling of the issue. The subsidies decision clearly was going to generate a strong reaction from the public, given a) the general state of economic unease and vulnerability that defines many Jordanians, b) widespread popular irritation with the feeling that the lives and fate of ordinary people are being determined by heartless International Monetary Fund (IMF) bureaucrats and their equally ice-hearted political allies in foreign capitals, c) broad disappointment with the lack of visible economic gains from the peace treaty with Israel, and d) the high expectations inherent in the Kabarti government's pledges of promoting new-style public conduct and decision-making.

Thus the bread prices decision generated strong protests and also raised questions about many other aspects of the government's performance, which the government handled so clumsily that it had to be bailed out by the personal intervention and support of His Majesty King Hussein. We should not merely document these events, but also explore them for their causes and future implications. The government, especially, should reach deep into its youthful soul and analyse what it did right and what it did wrong, so that politically it conducts itself more effectively the next time we face a similar situation of price increases (which, government promises to the contrary, is probably inevitable if you look at the relatively low prices of our

water, transport and other basics).

It seems to me that the government has made the same mistake on this issue that previous governments made on the peace treaty with Israel. It assumed — naively, innocently but probably wrongly — that consultations with elected parliamentarians provided a degree of political interaction with the people of Jordan sufficient to satisfy both the state's profession of democratic rule and the people's visceral, almost biological obsession to be treated with respect and dignity by those who make decisions in their name. Parliament is an important player in the democratic arena, but it is only one of many other players that need to be engaged for the political spectacle to achieve its full beauty and bounty.

The government's tendency to decide without sufficient input from all political actors and a representative cross-section of ordinary citizens is a structural problem of political culture that will require gradual adjustment, just as our economic distortions require long-term structural adjustment. Jordanian governments have exercised virtually absolute power for so many decades that they do not know how to, or do not feel the need to, engage the people in a deep, genuine dialogue of equals, for governments have neither been trained in such a process nor subjected to its political imperatives.

The double irony and disappointment in this instance is that the Kabarti government assumed power precisely on the promise of promoting a new, more open manner of political decision-making — one that consulted more people, engaged in give-and-take, allowed for more expression of people's sentiments, and placed a greater value on credibility, accountability, transparency, and corruption-busting. This government entered office dressed in the beautiful promise of modern governance values whose assertion would mark a historic transition from the old ways to the new, from history to modernity — from dependency as a defining Jordanian political attribute to self-assertion and innovative, productive self-reliance as the hallmark of a younger, more audacious, more daring and more deliberative Jordan.

The fact remains, I claim, that the vast majority of Jordanians appreciate and accept the need to raise prices if this is the only means of reducing public budget deficits; what it objects to is being forced to do so by government fiat without sufficient attention being paid to the people's sense that their needs and concerns are being taken into consideration. I am certain that a more rigorous national political and economic consensus could have been reached had the government said directly to parliament and the various extra-parliamentary opposition groups: "We have a major, indeed, historical fiscal problem; we must reduce government subsidies on bread and other goods and services by several hundred million dinars, otherwise the state's deficit will increase, foreign exchange reserves will

drop again, confidence in the dinar will erode, and real living standards will drop precipitously for all Jordanians. We would like your suggestions on how this can be avoided and how budget cuts can be achieved in a manner that is socially, politically and economically acceptable to the majority of Jordanians."

I am sure that more serious consultations, before making the decision to shift bread subsidies, would have achieved the government's fiscal goals, while also achieving its political goal of implementing a "white revolution". The government's approach was flawed because: a) it focused too much energy on parliament (which is a, but not necessarily the, leading expression of democratic opposition in the realm) and b) it did not sufficiently engage the population as a whole in an exercise in democratic dialogue, neither in explaining the reasons for the needed subsidy changes nor in discussing with Jordanians possible other options for making the necessary fiscal adjustments.

The government also acted or appeared heavy-handed when it took measures to hinder the peaceful protests/sit-in by opposition groups in front of Parliament on Sunday. The people who asked for permission to protest represent the heart of the loyal opposition to the government. If these people are not granted permission to express their political sentiments in a peaceful, rational manner in the warm sun of a July Sunday morning in front of the highest expression of our institutional political democracy — the house of parliament — then can we blame those Jordanians who now tend to be more sceptical about both the economic benefits of peace with Israel and the depth and credibility of our political democratisation?

This issue is rather simple, I believe: people are just as concerned about how their government treats them as they are about what their government does. There is no doubt that this government, with so many parliamentarians amidst its ministerial ranks, will always secure a parliamentary majority for whatever political or economic decisions it makes.

Therefore, it has to make the extra effort to engage the Jordanian people in democratic, white revolutionary encounters in a more creative, profound and credible manner than it has done to date. I say this as a supporter and admirer of the Kabarti government and a believer in its promise of enlightened, modern governance, though I suspect that the government is still learning about the currency in which the transactions of modernism are denominated; and I say this also as a critic of a Kabarti government that, in this instance, momentarily slipped back into the beguiling but dark alleyways of the past, where it appears slightly uncomfortable, and where it has momentarily — and I believe only momentarily — lost sight of the need for governments and people simultaneously to change their ways, in order to absorb the costs of change and then to reap the benefits of genuine progress.

## All that glitters isn't... Gold

By Uri Avnery

ALL THAT glitters isn't gold — not even Netanyahu wonder boy Dore Gold.

Many years back I remember discussing the subject of Israeli experts on Arab affairs with Boutros Ghali. Sadat had just visited Jerusalem, and Dr. Ghali was serving in the Egyptian foreign ministry. The future U.N. secretary-general was already known for his brilliance.

"You Israelis have the best Arabists in the world," he said with a smile. "They have read every book and article on the Arab World. But they don't understand a thing. Why? Because they have never lived in an Arab state or come into contact with the Arab public."

I recalled this conversation recently in connection with Gold.

Those in the prime minister's inner circle speak of Gold with nothing but the highest praise. In their eyes he is a brilliant expert, a true Jewish-American intellectual, the guy with all the answers.

After Gold met with Arafat I asked the Palestinians about their impressions of Wonder Boy. They just shrugged: "Another one who doesn't understand a thing."

Sending Gold to meet with the head of the Palestinian Authority was an empty gesture on Netanyahu's part.

The Americans had demanded that Netanyahu meet with Yasser Arafat. He didn't want to, either from personal conviction or out of fear of the extreme right-wingers who are becoming entrenched in his government. So he sent Gold in his stead.

That way, despite the total freeze in the peace process, Netanyahu could travel to the U.S. and sell his hosts a lot of bunk about the continuation of

the process. All is well; contact has been maintained. Gold has met with Arafat.

Clinton, of course, was happy enough. He has elections coming up in four months and until then he has no desire to quarrel with Israel's government. The last thing he needs is to alienate Jewish American voters.

*"These yes-men, in and out of uniform, are supposed to be the ones who will advance the peace process. Instead they will reinforce the negative attitude of our new premier, a man who knows nothing about Palestinians and has surrounded himself with people who apparently don't know much more."*

But the problem goes beyond the prime minister's tendency to play "let's pretend" with the Palestinian Authority.

Benjamin Netanyahu has little understanding of the Arab World in general, and of the Palestinian people in particular. His books testify to this. They are crammed full of "facts" which evoke a smile from anyone with even a rudimentary knowledge of Arab reality.

It's no wonder. Netanyahu has almost never talked to real Arabs — except for formal talks with Arab heads of state and the much-publicised stormy meeting with Arab journalists in Madrid. Everything Bibi knows about Arabs is a collection of slogans, some inherited from his father, some he himself has come up with.

One could argue that a politician doesn't have to know everything. It's enough if he knows how to win an election — and Netanyahu's very good at that.

But if the prime minister knows nothing about an issue vital to national security, for example, it becomes important who his advisers are. And that's where Gold comes in.

I don't know, and I don't care, where Netanyahu found this "expert." What is important is that Gold is dangerous for two reasons: first, because he has no genuine understanding of the Palestinian reality — at least according to the Palestinians themselves — and second, because both he and Netanyahu think he understands it.

As premier Netanyahu wields enormous power, he will discover what leaders throughout history have learned: that advisers tell

you what you want to hear, and they will furnish you with opinions that mesh with your own.

We've already seen this process in action. Officials involved in Palestinian relations prepared the paper-work for the new prime minister in advance of his U.S. visit.

They made sure to write precisely what Netanyahu wanted to hear — for example, on the subject of alleged Palestinian violations of the Oslo accords.

These yes-men, in and out of uniform, are supposed to be the ones who will advance the peace process. Instead they will reinforce

the negative attitude of our new premier, a man who knows nothing about Palestinians and has surrounded himself with people who apparently don't know much more.

Understanding is clearly no substitute for political will. No amount of information will help Netanyahu make peace if he isn't interested in peacemaking.

But it would at least help him to know what he's talking about.

The writer heads Israel's Peace Bloc. The article is reprinted from the Jerusalem Post.

### LETTERS

#### Revising eating habits

To the Editor:

BREAD HAS for centuries been regarded as a symbol of life.

From an economy point of view, bread is no more than an ordinary commodity whose rise in price is similar to a rise in the price of any other commodity such as tomatoes, oil, sugar and gasoline.

Hence, while in principle foodstuffs get their priorities in the consumption pattern of the consumers, nobody would argue that their price is anything but what the fair market conditions reflect.

In its endeavour to abide by the economic reform policy and to cope with the requirements of a safe economy, the government was to confront and choose one among some bitter alternatives: all of them are very harmful and detrimental, except for the choice to lift a subsidy granted to fix bread selling prices, which is the least. Therefore, it should be sincerely understood that by so reluctantly biting the bullet, the government will avoid a dilemma that could affect the country, while comprehending the dimensions of the endurance the people will have to undergo.

One more thing worth saying is that a serious review of our menu should take place. Our cuisine concentrates on carbohydrates and fats; therefore, by following better eating habits we will be able to lead a healthier life.

Again, why should we always be pessimistic and not count our blessings, such as the social peace and cohesion, prevailing security, and overcome the need to endure with patience for the sake of preparing a better life for our children and the generations yet to come.

Let us always remember the saying: Man does not live by bread alone.

Maher A. Waked,  
Amman.

#### Stop polluting

To the Editor:

THE LAW of nature guides human conduct in connection with his surroundings.

Economic development is one important element that greatly affects the environment.

Governments tend to combat and control pollution through their judicial system.

Pollution is caused by human beings and its extent and consequences are caused by the following four factors: high population densities, increase in consumption as a result of an increase in incomes, emission of pollutants in the course of production and legal and economic systems that have failed to prevent or discourage the free method of waste disposal.

Sulphur dioxide and nitrogen in the atmosphere contributed to acid rain which destroys forests, plantations, lakes and rivers.

Population density in big cities is responsible for contaminated air and water, traffic congestion and noise pollution. In this case, zoning ordinances, which restrict the use of land, represent effective remedies.

Over the years, the citizens of Fubeis have been complaining about and alleging continuous damage from dust, smoke and vibration emanating from the Jordan Cement Factories.

The Jordan Cement Factories in Fubeis is charged with trespass and nuisance. Trespass may occur if one causes particles to enter the airspace above another person's land. Nuisance has been defined as an act that annoys or disturbs the enjoyment of a land-owner's property. Therefore, the factory should be prohibited from further polluting the air and causing distress to the inhabitants of that city.

George N. Saig,  
Amman.

By Lois Rogers

ALLIA COLLIER has tried almost everything the slimming industry can offer. She embarked on her first diet as a chubby 14-year-old. As her weight crept upwards, she went on light diets, fruit diets and fibre diets. She perspired. She swam. She performed exercises in front of her video and panted her way through countless aerobics classes, all in vain. When, at 5 feet 3 inches, she hit 15 stone, Collier, from Newark, Nottingham, decided to forgo the low-calorie diet for low-calorie "drinks." "Meal-replacement" drinks, to her astonishment and to her loss three stone, she put on more weight than ever. By the age of 20 she was nearly 30 stone.

Today, little more than a year later, she has halved in weight after a course of week-long classes at Slimming World, one of Britain's biggest dieting clubs, which taught her to control her eating. She predicts a lifelong battle to maintain a healthy weight but at least knows now that it is possible to starve herself.

The effect of that is that you just eat more when you go to yourself go," she said. "The key is to understand what foods you can eat and all be healthy."

The slimming industry's appeal to Collier and the 50 per cent of people said to be overweight in the United Kingdom is such that we spend more than £1 billion a year on everything from slimming pills to insubstantial breads, from exercise bikes to low-calorie chocolates for farmers who cannot live without them.

This appeal is about to be enhanced by the results of a commercial race to be first with revolutionary advances in science that promise to succeed where so many have failed.

At the European Congress on Obesity, a recent international conference to consider such developments, Professor Michael Lum from Glasgow University extolled the virtues of a new drug called sibutramine.

# Gle

By Neil Winton  
Reuter

LONDON — A scientific argument is blazing over a U.N. agency's view that global warming is probably caused by people.

Some scientists say flawed data and politics have tainted the case. Arguments over the quality of the science behind the U.N.'s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) have led to normally calm scientists heatedly hurling epithets such as "disingenuous", "nonsense" and "distortion" at each other.

On July 19, the IPCC winds up its latest deliberations on climate change — dominated by its contentious assertion that human activity plays a key role in global warming — at the end of a two-week meeting in Geneva attended by government officials and scientists.

They will report on the progress made by industrialised countries towards meeting the goal set by the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio that emissions of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide should return to 1990 levels by 2000.

Both sides of the global temperature argument, running for months since the IPCC laid the blame at mankind's door



# Features

## Slim hope

By Lois Rogers

JULIA COLLIER has tried almost everything the slimming industry can offer. She embarked on her first diet as a chubby 14-year-old. As her weight crept relentlessly upwards, she went on light diets, fruit diets and fibre diets. She fasted. She swam. She performed exercises in front of her video and panted her way through countless aerobics classes; all in vain.

When, at 5 feet 3 inches, she hit 15 stone, Collier, from Newark, Nottinghamshire, decided to forsake food for low-calorie "meal-replacement" drinks. To her astonishment and joy, she lost three stone. But when she stopped the diet, she put on more weight than ever. By the age of 29, she was nearly 18 stone.

Today, little more than a year later, she has halved in size after a course of weekly classes at Slimming World, one of Britain's biggest dieting clubs, which taught her to control her eating. She predicts a lifelong battle to maintain a healthy weight but at least knows now that it is pointless to starve herself.

"The effect of that is that you just eat more when you let yourself go," she said. "The key is to understand what foods you can eat and still be healthy."

The slimming industry's appeal to Collier and the 50 per cent of people said to be overweight in the United Kingdom is such that we spend more than £1 billion a year on everything from slimming pills to insubstantial breads, from exercise bikes to low-calorie chocolates for fannies who cannot live without them.

This appeal is about to be enhanced by the results of a commercial race to be first with revolutionary advances in science that promise to succeed where so many have failed.

At the European Congress on Obesity, a recent international conference to consider such developments, Professor Michael Lean, from Glasgow University, extolled the virtues of a new drug called sibutramine, which fools the brain into thinking the stomach is full.

Sibutramine — brand name Reductil — has been tried out on 4,000 people in several countries, including Britain. All claimed to be unable to lose weight by eating less or moving about more. Not only did nine in 10 lose an average of more than a stone; they kept the weight off for at least a year. The drug is expected to become available on prescription from next year.

Those who dislike drugs and the risk of side effects such as headaches and nausea may be more attracted by a treatment being tried out in the United States following last year's announcement that a gene for obesity had been found in mice.

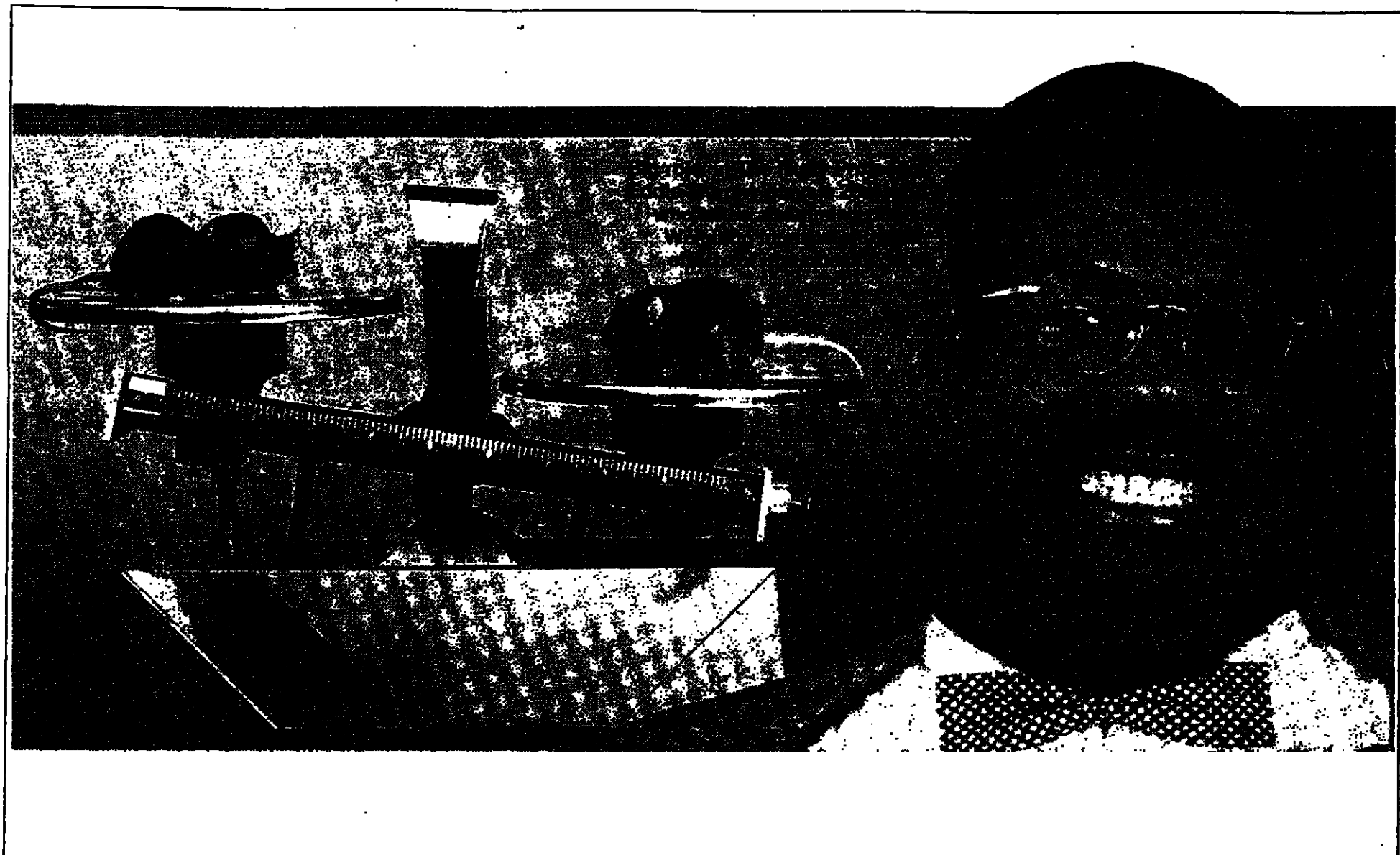
The gene, named "ob", makes a protein called leptin. Doses of leptin have been found to turn fat mice thin.

Recently scientists have begun injecting fat people with leptin to see if it works on them, too. Amgen, the company running the trial, is optimistic: it paid £13m for the rights to the gene.

Geneticists even plan to change our food. Recently scientists announced the development of a potato engineered to absorb less fat during cooking with a view to producing less-fatening chips.

The question Collier and millions like her are asking is: After decades in which slimmers' hopes have been repeatedly raised and dashed by the promotion of one lucrative product after another, will any of these new developments really make a difference?

The paradox that the slimming industry struggles to explain is that its phenomenal growth since the 1970s, when Slimco's low-calorie bread became an essential purchase for the figure-conscious, has coincided with a sharp increase in obesity. The condition, defined by a 20 per cent excess of body weight, has doubled in the past decade alone. One woman in six is obese; one in four is expected to be so by 2005.



Britain is going the way of America, where one third of the entire population is now said to be obese and Eddie Murphy's latest comedy film, "The Nutty Professor", is devoted to removing the stigma. Murphy plays a 25-stone chemistry professor made thin by a potion. The actor says he aims to portray being obese as "like having any other kind of handicap."

Why have so many people put on so much weight? According to the experts, a more sedentary lifestyle is mainly to blame. We watch an average of 26 hours of television each week, twice as much as during the 1960s; drive where we used to walk or cycle; and use machines to do the kitchen chores that used to burn calories.

Our intake of calories has actually fallen, but any benefits from this have been outweighed by a sharper fall in the amount of energy expended. Dieting has therefore done less to ease

the burden of obesity than might have been expected. Studies indicate that the biggest consumers of low-calorie foods experience the greatest long-term weight gain. It is suggested that they eat other foods when the low-calorie ones fail to satisfy.

The army, police and fire services speak in terms of a crisis of obesity. All have trouble recruiting people fit and lean enough to do their work. Treating health problems associated with obesity, including heart disease, stroke and diabetes, costs up to £1.5 billion a year.

Some resort to desperate measures, such as having their stomachs stapled. Albert Sädler, 46, a former bus driver from Wirral, Merseyside, had his jaw wired together and lost seven of his 24 stones. He put all the weight back on later after his marriage broke up, but is now down to 10 stone after a course of diet classes.

Christine Malik, 31, from

Woolwich, south London, was less fortunate. At 12st she started taking a cocktail of slimming pills, including hormone-based "fat-burners". Her husband found her in a deep sleep with her lips turning blue. She never regained consciousness and died, leaving two children. Drugs that act like amphetamines or "speed" have been linked with 15 deaths.

Lesley Ravenscroft, 31, from Bewdley, Worcestershire, is typical of a growing number of women who have rebelled against the slimming industry through resentment at such tragedies and the stereotyped images of thin, glamorous women that she believes contribute to them.

A size 16 when she married eight years ago, she is now a 22 and wages a crusade against the kind of "fatism" portrayed in Murphy's movie. While she admits she would probably feel healthier and more confident if she lost weight, she

refuses, she says, to be intimidated, and has launched an aerobics class for women of size 16-plus. "Life is for enjoying rather than worrying about how many calories are in a salad. I prefer my lettuce in a hamburger," she said.

Such views draw a cool response from the drug companies whose profits depend on a high degree of slimmer motivation. Knoll Pharmaceuticals, which is marketing sibutramine, said drugs were the only answer for many people who had to lose weight quickly to relieve health problems such as heart disease.

For slimmers who want to know how well sibutramine works, Ian Smith, a GP from Chorley, Lancashire, who supervised its trials in Britain, confirms potential benefits despite a small increase in some people's blood pressure. "We saw some dramatic weight losses," he said.

As for other advances, some experts are sceptical

about the arrival of Olestra, a fat substitute used in crisps in America, whose unpredictable laxative effects have caused some unease. Genetically engineered potatoes and other foods seem unlikely to have any greater impact than the low-calorie products already in the supermarkets.

High hopes are pinned on treatments arising from the discovery of "ob" and other genes for obesity. However, nutritionists and doctors specialising in obesity warn that it would be wrong for slimmers to treat scientific advances as a technological crutch to help them avoid the simpler, cheaper solutions that should work for the vast majority: the dietary control that helped both Collier and Sädler to spectacular reductions in size; and the exercise that is so lacking in modern life.

The hostility of British doctors to drugs was illustrated last week at a meet-

ing of the Association for the Study of Obesity, which called for greater awareness of the fat consumed in processed supermarket foods, the psychological factors that lead people into "comfort eating" and an overwhelming need to use up more calories. "If people took more exercise, they would prevent the problem in the first place," said Professor Peter Kopelman, the association's chairman.

Andrew Prentice, a leading expert at the Medical Research Council, said the most common problem in dieting was a failure to realise that exercise was the key to weight regulation. "We have a real concern over young girls in particular, desperately trying to eat less when they could eat just about what they liked if only they were physically active."

The Sunday Times

# Global warming combatants raise the temperature

By Neil Winton  
Reuters

LONDON — A scientific argument is blazing over a U.N. agency's view that global warming is probably caused by people.

Some scientists say flawed data and politics have tainted the case. Arguments over the quality of the science behind the U.N.'s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) have led to normally calm scientists heatedly hurling epithets such as "disingenuous", "nonsense" and "distortion" at each other.

On July 19, the IPCC winds up its latest deliberations on climate change — dominated by its contentious assertion that human activity plays a key role in global warming — at the end of a two-week meeting in Geneva attended by government officials and scientists.

They will report on the progress made by industrialised countries towards meeting the goal set by the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio that emissions of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide should return to 1990 levels by 2000.

Both sides of the global temperature argument, rumbling for months since the IPCC laid the blame at mankind's door

in a report at the end of 1995, can at least agree on one thing — progress has at best been painfully slow.

The stakes are huge because if serious progress is to be made on cutting emissions, this would entail momentous and unpopular action in the developed world.

Governments would seek to curb energy consumption and car use by higher taxes or decree. Economies and wealth creation would slow. Resources would be switched from the developed to the developing world.

Scientists and politicians who agree with the IPCC that the hand of man is behind the warming of the world's climate say urgent action must be taken. Unless warming is stabilised by slashing use of fossil fuels such as coal and oil, large parts of the world will face terrifying consequences.

As the ice caps melt and sea levels rise, low-lying coastal areas will be engulfed. Higher temperatures will mean less rainfall in many parts of the developing world, devastating agriculture and health.

These scientists say the IPCC evidence is powerful, and some suggest that those who disagree have hidden political agendas.

Perhaps they are financed by oil firms, electricity generators, or car manufacturers.

The dissenters say that the deliberations by the around 2,500 IPCC scientists are fatally flawed, twisted by politicians and special interest groups such as Greenpeace and Friends of the Earth.

Opinion which throws doubt on the IPCC conclusions has been ruthlessly slashed from published reports, they say, charging that evidence from satellite observation which shows there is no global warming has been ignored by IPCC scientists.

In a recent newspaper article, Dr. Frederick Seitz, president emeritus of New York's Rockefeller University, said passages had been removed from an IPCC report.

These passages said there was no evidence linking climate change to increases in greenhouse gases, no study had linked climate change to human cause, and climate change was so poorly understood anyway that any conclusions about its pattern were likely to be controversial, according to Dr. Seitz.

Dr. Seitz said the IPCC report would deceive policy makers and the public into believing that the sci-

entific evidence shows human activities are causing global warming.

"It's nonsense. They've turned the whole thing on its head," he told Reuters.

What would be the motivation to distort the IPCC findings?

"That's a complicated question. People have egos and agendas of their own. Some of them don't like our industrialised society they'd like to revert to what they think of as good times. Some people want power over others but I don't ascribe this to the (IPCC) leadership," Dr. Seitz said.

These arguments are seized on by scientists closely involved with the IPCC process.

"Seitz has got it completely wrong," said Sir John Houghton, chairman of Britain's Royal Commission On Environmental Pollution. He also co-chairs a major IPCC working group.

Mr. Houghton said Dr. Seitz and others were personalising the arguments, attacking the scientists rather than the science. He said the report had been changed before publication, but only to make it easier to understand.

"We made sure the science was not compromised in any way. At the end it was clearer, better written, and more scientifically accurate than at

the beginning," Mr. Houghton said.

He agreed there is still much uncertainty about global warming but says Dr. Seitz's comments are without foundation.

"What he (Seitz) is saying is trying to deceive the public and politicians. It is complete and utter nonsense there is no foundation in fact whatsoever," Mr. Houghton said.

Dr. Seitz supporters, like atmospheric physicist S. Fred Singer, fire back with equally aggressive counterblasts.

"Houghton's remarks are disingenuous, if I may say so," Mr. Singer said in a telephone interview from his office in Fairfax, Virginia, when told that the changes in the report were to make it more readable.

"I will tell you that it's not yet possible to draw the conclusions that the IPCC draws from the evidence. The scientists have done the best job they can with the data, but in my view the data is not adequate to support the (discernible human climate influence) conclusion," said Mr. Singer.

Convinced "warmer" Dr. Stephen Schneider, professor at California's Stanford University's Department of Biological Sciences, has no time for

these arguments.

"This polemical nonsense from Seitz and Singer is outrageous distortion and character assassination which is demonstrably false. Their prime interests are vested, and it's pure smoke to divert the fact that the bulk of the opinions are against them," Dr. Schneider said.

Some experts say the argument over global warming is a sideshow diverting attention away from the real threat to the future of mankind — the population explosion.

"Global warming is not proven. Reputable science says there is only about one degree of warming," said Sir John Mason from Imperial College's Centre for Environmental Technology.

"The notion that global warming is the biggest catastrophe facing mankind is a gross exaggeration," Mr. Mason said. "The biggest threat is the population explosion over the next 50 years or so. Many environmental problems — climate, shortage of water, pollution — will stem from this rapid increase in the world's population."

## Historian retraces slave trek

By Pierre Glachant  
Agence France-Presse

Washington — Trudging through fields and forests and hidden on a freight train, black historian Anthony Cohen set out on a two-month journey retracing the escape route taken by slaves during the 19th century.

The United States has recently seen a surge of interest in African-American history. Cohen decided that the best way of studying the underground railroad — which delivered 30,000 to 100,000 blacks from slavery — was to at least partially relive it.

Cohen, who is 32 and grew up in a Washington suburb, travelled for two months by foot, rail and boat to gain an insight on how blacks secretly made their way from southern plantations north to freedom in Canada.

The so-called railroad was really a network that brought together opponents of slavery, such as the quakers, who sheltered slaves along the way. And there were many different routes slaves took in the 1850s and early 1860s.

Some slaves did not go north, instead seeking freedom in Mexico, the Caribbean and even Africa.

What the slaves feared most — even after they had headed north — were bounty hunters who received cash rewards for apprehending and returning slaves to their masters. His eyes full of enthusiasm, Mr. Cohen recalled

his trip, which began in early May in Sandy Spring, Maryland. His Odyssey ended July 6 in Amherstburg in the Canadian province of Ontario.

Traveling 650 kilometres by foot, the same distance by train and 30 kilometres by boat, Mr. Cohen questioned people about their relatives' activities and searched documentation in libraries about the railroad.

To get an idea of the fear the slaves had as they fled the south, Mr. Cohen at one point hid in a wooden box on board a freight train.

But for the most part he wasn't hiding, although he sometimes slept in stables as did the fleeing slaves.

One stop along his trip was a church in Syracuse, New York founded in 1850 as a "radical anti-slavery church." To this day the church continues to support human rights, in recent years welcoming political refugees from Central America and Haiti.

Mr. Cohen also recalls the emotions he felt upon hearing the liberty bell sound in South Buxton, a town on Lake Erie in Ontario. The border town was the railroad's last stop and the bell rang every time another slave reached freedom.

Slavery is "a painful past," Mr. Cohen said. "We need to talk about it because we still carry around a lot of that. People are realising that black history in America is one part of American history. It is not separated."



## HOROSCOPE FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, JULY 23, 1996

**Happy Days**  
*Patisserie*  
*Soups & Salads Cafe*  
**OPEN DAILY FROM**  
**10 A.M. - 1 A.M.**  
**Tel. 857199**  
**Fax 898537**  
**Umm Uthaina**  
**behind San Rock**  
**Hotel**



## Egypt, Israel consortium sign oil refinery deal

CAIRO (R) — An Egyptian-Israeli consortium Sunday signed a series of contracts to build a \$1.2 billion oil refinery in Alexandria, Egypt.

The contracts were awarded to a European consortium, a Japanese company and four U.S. companies, the Middle East Oil Refinery (MIDOR) consortium told reporters in Cairo.

Technipetrol of Italy and Technip of France will build the refinery. The U.S. companies UOP, Conoco and Bechtel will supply state-of-the-art technology and Louisiana Carbon will participate in product off-takes, MIDOR added in a statement.

MIDOR is a joint venture between Israel's Merhav Group, the Hussein K. Salem Group of Egypt and the Egyptian General Petroleum Corp. (EGPC).

"We started three-and-a-half years ago on this project. At first, we explored several other projects ranging from gold mines to petrochemicals until we decided on the oil refinery," said Hussein Salem, chairman of the Salem Group.

"We (Egypt and Israel) were enemies of the past and now we are friends of today," he added, referring to the peace deal signed between the two countries in 1979.

The signing ceremony was followed by a lavish champagne reception and lunch at a five-star Cairo hotel which key Egyptian and Israeli officials attended.

Officials at MIDOR said a ground-breaking ceremony is expected to take place in October and that the final steps in project development, including financing as well as selection of other construction groups, will be concluded soon.

They said the European Investment Bank had extended long-term credit of \$300 million to the project. They also said that several export credit agencies have expressed an interest in providing credit for the project.

One official added that

the construction phase will take three to four years to be finished.

National Westminster and Banque Nationale de Paris already serve as arranging banks for financing.

Merhav and Salem each has 40 per cent of the project and the EGPC has 20 per cent.

The refinery will produce mostly unleaded gasoline. Israel and Egypt will each get a third of production while the rest will be sold to adjacent markets, such as Turkey, southern Italy, Greece, Cyprus and the Palestinians.

## Foreign interest grows in Egyptian shares

CAIRO (R) — Foreign investors more than tripled their share of business on the Egyptian stock exchange in the first half of 1996 as international interest in the market took off, a senior financial official has said.

Ashraf Shams Al Din, deputy chairman of Egypt's Capital Markets Authority (CMA), said international investors accounted for 20 per cent of the 3.3 billion pounds (\$970 million) of stock traded on the Cairo bourse in the first six months of the year.

That compared with just six per cent of the 3.8 billion pounds traded in the

whole of last year.

"The domestic investment base has increased sharply, but on top of all that the foreign investment has risen even faster," Mr. Shams Al Din told Reuters.

He said international investors were drawn by Egypt's relative economic openness compared to other Arab stock markets, the Egyptian government's renewed commitment to economic reform and by high-profile conferences in New York and London promoting investment opportunities in the country.

"I don't think any of the existing markets in the region allow for free such

accessibility to share ownership as in Egypt," Mr. Shams Al Din said.

He said most of the foreign players were international investors from the United States, Britain, Singapore and from other Arab countries.

Brokers say that foreign buying has been partly behind a two-week surge in the Egyptian share prices.

They said a flurry of sales of state companies and the proposed listing of Egypt's largest private sector bank on the London exchange had also put the exchange in the international spotlight.

## Price war takes toll of PC market

PARIS (AFP) — Alarm signals last week from Digital and Escom, two major names in personal computers (PCs), revealed starkly how much the once-lucrative PC market has been plunged into crisis by an escalating price war.

Escom A.G., which shot to second place on the German PC market in less than 10 years, shocked the business world last week by announcing it was going into receivership.

The American company Digital ended two years of spectacular development by announcing a ruthless restructuring programme with loss of 7,000 jobs, or more than 10 per cent of its workforce.

The difficulties of the German company, which will go bankrupt if it cannot find a buyer, was caused by what was seen as a risky business policy and a stock backlog due to an unexpectedly slow market growth in the European PC market in recent months.

Robert Palmer, Digital's

chief executive, made no bones about who was to blame for the company's recent performance: The microprocessing division.

"The performance of our personal computers activity is unacceptable," he said.

But many observers believe the chief culprit is the price war in the PC market. The French consultant Francois Klipfel said: "It has disoriented everybody. Companies have deferred their purchases, anticipating that prices would fall further."

Several top-of-the-range computers now find themselves selling at the same price as bottom-of-the-range versions of eight months earlier.

It seems Digital will not quit the PC market, as did the French company Bull when it handed over its subsidiary Zenith Data Systems (ZDS) to its U.S. partner Packard-Bell in April, or the British company ICL, whose PC division has now been completely taken over by the parent company.

Like ZDS, Digital did not

manage to get into the world's top ten, which includes the market leader Compaq, along with names like Hewlett-Packard, IBM and Bell. The American maker Apple is in trouble similar to that of the PC makers, according to the Wall Street Journal.

The newspaper last week reported a 30 to 50 per cent drop in sales of Apple's Macintosh computers during the April-May period compared to a year ago.

Without confirming these figures, the group has admitted that it did not anticipate profits in the short-term.

Despite the current crisis, which could lead to various brand names disappearing or being merged, the specialist Francois Klipfel remains optimistic about the future of microprocessing. He said it would "remain a growing market, much better oriented than most other economic sectors."

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET											
HOUSING BANK CENTER AMMAN - JORDANIA											
ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR MONDAY 22/07/1996											
PRICE	12 MONTH LOW	COMPANY'S NAME	P / R	DIV.	NO. OF SHARES	NO. OF ORDERS	VALUE TRADING JD	OPEN PRICE	CLOSE PRICE	CHANGE	
250.000	205.000	ARAB BANK	12.0	1.50	9	320	70315	220.00	220.00	-	
3.800	3.000	BANK OF JORDAN	10.9	0.00	3	212	871	3.17	3.01	-0.16	
1.340	1.880	MID. EAST INV. BK.	65.7	0.00	18	4000	5569	.99	1.00	.01	
2.700	2.120	INDUSTRIAL DEV. BK.	5.0	0.00	2	5000	987	2.22	2.19	-0.03	
5.100	4.250	THE HOUSING BK.	12.8	0.00	4	5000	3370	4.86	4.79	-0.07	
3.040	2.600	JOR. KOWAT BANK	19.6	0.00	12	2523	6844	2.71	2.71	-	
1.240	1.900	JOR. OIL BANK	7.1	0.00	15	21400	20320	.96	.95	-0.01	
4.120	3.300	JOR. ISLAMIC BANK	17.4	0.00	15	3519	12713	3.48	3.62	.14	
4.350	1.700	UNION BK. SAV. INV.	9	0.00	6	181	235	1.76	1.80	.04	
1.120	1.300	AMMAN BANK INV.	9	0.00	20	22550	7472	.34	.33	-0.01	
1.720	1.000	BEIT ALBAH. INV. BK.	9	0.00	4	1150	1330	1.17	1.15	-0.02	
BANK SECTOR TOTALS INDEX: 173.94 %CHG: -0.34 102 62305 150901											
4.410	4.000	JERUSALEM INSUR.	11.4	0.00	1	200	840	4.25	4.20	-0.05	
INSURANCE SECTOR TOTALS INDEX: 123.16 %CHG: -0.12 1 200 840											
1.900	1.450	JOR. ELECTRICITY PWR.	10.5	7.00	20	8610	13088	1.53	1.52	-0.01	
2.890	2.090	SHIPPING LINES	9.2	9.22	3	950	2062	2.17	2.17	-	
1.160	1.800	REAL ESTATE SERV.	32.0	3.22	3	300	1241	3.48	3.41	-0.07	
2.450	1.790	MID. EAST HOTELS	79.7	0.00	1	1000	1850	1.87	1.85	-0.02	
1.430	1.950	BANK EDUCATION	9	0.00	2	2250	2254	2.02	1.90	-0.12	
4.430	1.700	UNIFIED CO.	9.9	5.29	11	3000	5615	2.88	1.89	-0.99	
SERVICE SECTOR TOTALS INDEX: 112.73 %CHG: -0.20 41 16782 26067											
3.810	3.060	JOR. CEMENT FACT.	18.0	8.17	14	3211	9986	3.11	3.15	.04	
5.980	4.750	ARAB POWER CO.	15.2	3.96	2	350	1768	5.05	5.05	-	
10.550	8.750	JOR. PETROL. REFINERY	9.2	8.83	14	670	7884	9.10	9.06	-0.04	
5.800	2.100	ARAB PETROL. SERV.	18.7	3.87	14	1261	1241	3.48	3.41	-0.07	
4.450	5.658	JOR. CERAMIC IND.	7.2	4.21	2	280	1445	5.85	5.80	-0.05	
2.430	1.710	JOR. PIPES MANUF.	10.0	6.67	2	280	630	1.80	1.80	-	
3.110	2.850	JOR. TILES MANUF.	7.1	10.92	1	100	271	1.71	2.25	.54	
8.000	4.250	DAR ALDAMA DV. INV.	12.5	4.50	1	1100	5005	4.60	4.55	-0.05	
5.800	3.130	ARAB ALUM. IND.	5.2	12.23	8	1600	5273	3.37	3.27	-0.10	
7.410	4.800	LITERATURE & PUBLISH.	9	0.00	94	121750	62883	1.51	1.50	-0.01	
1.500	1.050	ARAB PAPER COV. TRD.	9.8	7.97	104	7950	10290	1.26	1.30	.04	
1.210	1.660	NATIONAL INDUS.	10.2	8.70	15	5131	2545	.70	.69	-0.01	
2.310	1.050	ASTROCHEM. PETRO. CHEM.	9	0.00	4	950	1214	1.27	1.28	.01	
4.810	2.650	MIL. CABLE WIRE. TRD.	10.8	0.00	7	150	455	3.05	3.05	-	
1.660	830	JOR. SULPHUR CHEM.	9	0.00	13	4350	3923	.90	.89	-0.01	
2.240	1.080	ARAB PHARM. CHEM.	5.6	0.00	7	2350	3444	1.47	1.48	.01	
7.450	1.450	TRV. MOOT. INDUS.	5.6	0.15	6700	24872	2.25	2.25	0.00		
2.170	1.110	JOR. INDUS. RESOURCES	18.1	0.00	22	9100	19027	1.85	1.84	-0.01	
1.650	1.950	JOR. NEW CABLE CO.	20.3	0.00	8	2450	2467	1.05	1.05	-	
2.450	1.750	EL - DAY KARYA WIR.	9	0.00	3	7050	13050	1.45	1.45	-	
1.480	1.090	INTEL. TORAJOU	28.0	0.00	6	950	1146	1.20	1.19	-0.01	
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR TOTALS INDEX: 108.18 %CHG: -0.01 358 251177 253499											
GRAND TOTAL INDEX: 139.03 %CHG: -0.20 499 331444 471326											
PARALLEL MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR MONDAY 22/07/1996											
PRICE	12 MONTH LOW	COMPANY'S NAME	P / R	DIV.	NO. OF SHARES	NO. OF ORDERS	VALUE TRADING JD	OPEN PRICE	CLOSE PRICE	CHANGE	
840	810	CENTRAL GEN. STORAGE	22.9	0.00	4	3350	1950	.57	.57	-	
810	810	JOR. TRADING PWR.	17.1	0.00	8	6210	4013	.65	.64	-0.01	
850	840	KATL. CONCRETE MIXERS	2	0.00	7	11322	6657	.58	.59	.01	
1.000	700	UNION INV. SOF.	67.9	0.00	14	13000	2899	.73	.71	-0.02	
1.200	530	ARAB FID. INVEST.	9	0.00	25	19200	1411	.44	.41	-0.03	
650	340	JOR. TRD. INVEST. JEMCO	9	0.00	7	4500	2025	.46	.45	-0.01	
1.000	510	ARAB FOOD & MED.	2	0.00	10	2700	1625	.62	.60	-0.02	
1.880	1.370	KATL. CHEMISIE	2	0.00	2	350	514	1.47	1.47	-	
770	520	ARAB TRV. INV. TRD.	9	0.00	3	1350	780	.59	.57	-0.02	
1.000	770	KATL. MOUT. INV. TRD.	2	0.00	20	31450	20757	.68	.66	-0.02	
1.000	490	ARAB TRV. INV. TRD.	2	0.00	2	2000	1650	.84	.82	-0.02	
870	490	ARAB TRV. INV. TRD.	2	0.00	1	800	215	.49	.47	-0.02	
1.000	620	MUSKAT. TRV. INV. TRD.	2	0.00	6	2000	800	.83	.85	.02	
1.710	1.100	UNION TORAJOU 75%	2	0.00	3	2600	2392	1.19	1.17	-0.02	
990	640	KATL. TRV. INV. TRD.	2	0.00	19	1821	1718	.91	.88	-0.03	
890	440	TRV. INV. TRD.	35.7	0.00	48	90850	24874	.87	.88	.01	
1.460	770	TRV. INV. TRD.	2	0.00	8	4300	3440	.82	.80	-0.02	
850	410	L. TRV. INV. TRD.	2	0.00	4	2400	1250	.52	.51	-0.01	
970	650	KATL. TRV. INV. TRD.	2	0.00	4	2400	1250	.52	.51	-0.01	
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# Heyns slashes 44 seconds off world mark as Poll upstages Van Almsick United States strikes gold on 2nd day

ATLANTA (R) — The United States won their first two golds of the Atlanta Olympics on Sunday and swimmer Penny Heyns smashed her own world record to give South Africa their first Games title since 1952.

France's grand old lady of cycling, Jeannie Longo, finally captured an Olympic gold at the fourth attempt and was rewarded with a congratulatory call from President Jacques Chirac.

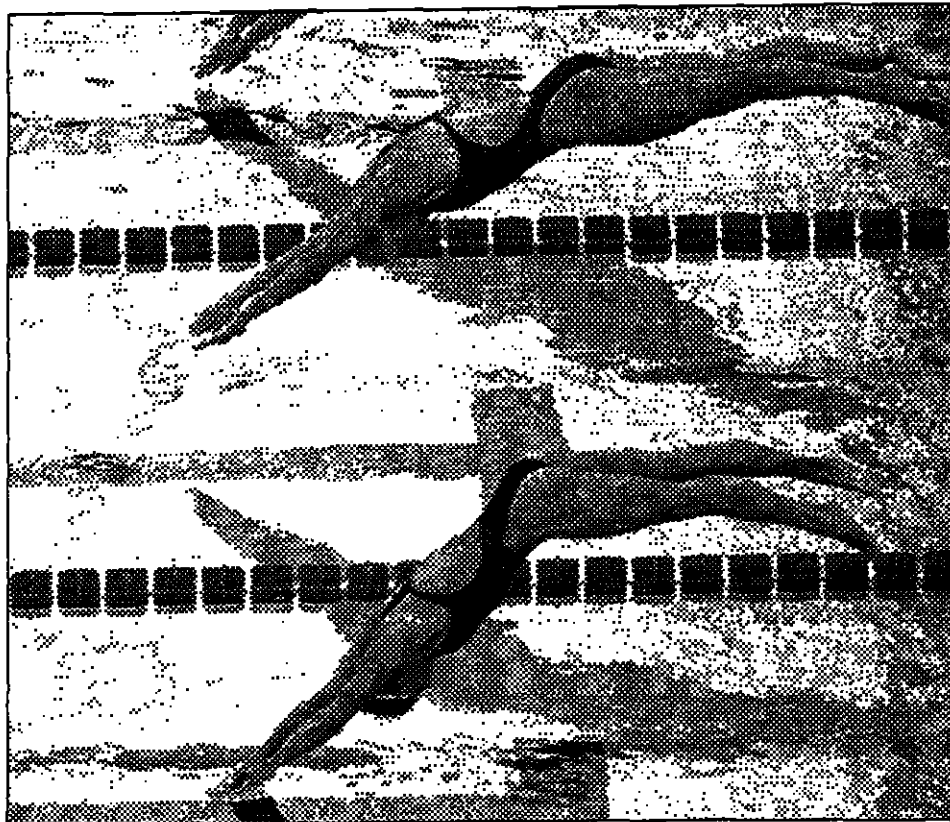
But with the Games only two days old, the organisers faced a chorus of protest after technical hitches, traffic gridlock and mammoth crowds threatened the world's greatest sports show.

The International Olympic Committee ordered red-faced officials to get it right and do it now. "This is worse than getting out of Vietnam after the fall of Saigon," grumbled one reporter trying to get to a venue. Muttous rowers even staged a sit-in and confronted police after being stranded by transport problems.

U.S. world champion Tom Dolan fought a battle royal with his compatriot Eric Namesnik in the 400 metres individual medley final for the honour of landing the first gold medal of the century Games for the host nation. The American team then added another in the 4x200 metres freestyle relay.

But the emotion of the battle with Dolan was too much for Namesnik, his constant rival and friend. As Dolan spoke to reporters Namesnik sunk to the floor, his head in his hands, and wept.

With the super-fast swimming pool living up to its reputation, Penny Heyns beat her own world record by a hefty 0.44 seconds in the morning heats



South Africa's Penny Heyns (top) dives into the pool en route to a new world record time for the women's 100 metre breaststroke at the Atlanta Olympics. Heyns timed 1:07.02 during her heat. Kristine Quance of the United States dives at the bottom of the picture (Reuters photo)

before taking the 100 metres breaststroke final from 14-year-old American Amanda Beard. Costa Rica's Claudia Poll upstaged Germany's world champion Franziska Van Almsick to land the fourth swimming gold of the night — the 200 metres freestyle.

The Atlanta storm clouds turned out to have a silver lining for French veteran Longo who won the women's road race after astringing of unlucky defeats in the last three Games.

"The rain gave me the opportunity to attack and make the race much tougher for the rest," said the 37-year-old.

But her compatriot, judoka Estha Essombe, ended her Atlanta Games in agony with a suspected leg fracture after being thrown by Italy's Ylenia Scapin.

After two days of competition, Poland led the medals table with four golds in judo, wrestling (2) and shooting.

Fredrik Deburghgraeve's world record and gold medal in the 100 metres breaststroke caused wild scenes in Belgium on Sunday, its national day. To add to the celebrations, Belgian judo won the women's light-heavyweight judo gold.

In the men's trap, Michael Diamond won Australia's first Olympic shooting gold and said he hoped reaction to the massacre of 35 people at port Arthur in Tasmania earlier this year would not result in the sport being excluded from the 2000 Games in his native Sydney. Russia claimed a gold-silver finish in the final of the women's 10 metres air pistol with Olga

Klocheva pipping Marinal Ogvinenko, who won the event in Barcelona four years ago. France's Laura Flessel took the gold in the women's individual epee while wrestler Yuri Melnicenko won Kazakhstan's first summer gold in the 57 kg Greco-Roman event.

In boxing, there was a row about the U.S. headgear. The Americans said an official kept questioning the kit even though it was in order. No such tensions for Canadian light-flyweight boxer Dominic Piliari.

Beaten in his first bout, he calmly returned to his sewing. "You can't eat all your trophies and your tracksuits," he said, explaining why he is in the embroidery business. "This is a good endeavour for me."

## Dream Team wants to frighten opponents

ATLANTA (R) — America's millionaire basketball players want to put a little fear back in the hearts of their Olympic opponents, if not the full-blown awe the original Dream Team inspired.

The U.S. Stars were sluggish for the first half of their eventual rout of Argentina in Saturday's opening match and centre David Robinson was still worrying at Sunday's off-day practice that other nations might be starting to believe that his team could actually be defeated.

"Last night, going into halftime, that team actually thought they could beat us with a few lucky turns," Robinson said. "We don't want that to happen, ever."

The Argentines trailed by just two points at halftime in Saturday night's game, and despite the 96-68 final scoreline, the Americans were searching for ways to "re-create that awe," as Robinson put it.

It was coach Lenny Wilkens who brought the "awe" concept up in the first place, but he says the "deep awe" that opponents felt for the original Dream Team cannot be repeated.

"I think that's a one-time thing," he said. "I think they respect our talent, but they're going to come out and play."

Forward Charles Barkley put it a little differently: "You're only a virgin one time in your life. You can't go back there."

But Robinson would like to try: "I think if we establish ourselves early in the game, and show them, 'hey, we're not playing around, this is no joke for us, we're here to play,' that awe will be there again, they'll think, 'well, we can't beat this team, there's no way.'"

Wilkens also believes that the first few minutes are the key to establishing dominance. "We have to be much more aggressive at the start of every game," he said.

In this case, Barkley saw it differently. "We're trying to blow everybody out in the first couple of minutes and that's not going to happen," he said.

"We're trying to compete too much with Dream Team I. We don't have to win by a certain number of points."

Barkley, who blamed the lateness of Saturday night's game for much of the Americans' problems, summarised: "We didn't play very well, but we won. We've got to adjust to the 10 o'clock starting time and I think we'll be fine."

He added: "Sometimes it's going to be a struggle for five, 15, 20 minutes. But in the long run we're going to wear the other team down and win."

## Finnish shot-putter fails drug test

HELSINKI (R) — Finnish champion shot-putter Markus Koistinen has failed a doping test and it is not clear whether he will compete at the Atlanta Olympics, the Finnish Sports Association Suomen Urheiluliitto said on Monday.

The association would decide later on Monday what action to take, a spokesman said on Finnish Radio. He said Koistinen tested positive for an unspecified substance after winning the Finnish national championships in

tampere just over two weeks ago. Koistinen has not yet left Finland for Atlanta.

"It is a doping infringement," the spokesman said. If the association decided to act its first move would be to ban Koistinen in the short term from competition, he said.

Koistinen, 26, placed 10th at the world championships in Gothenburg, Sweden, last year and was fifth in the European Championships in 1994.



## Schedule of TV's Olympic coverage on Channel 2

Equestrian	14:30 - 15:30
Rowing	15:35 - 16:35
Gymnastics (ladies' team optional)	16:25 - 17:25
Swimming heats	17:00 - 17:25
Boxing preliminary	20:25 - 22:30
Summary A (Channel 1)	20:30 - 21:30
Fencing (men's epee team)	21:50 - 00:10
Gymnastics (ladies' team optional)	21:55 - 02:05
Wrestling (finals)	22:25 - 01:55
Weightlifting (70 kg final)	22:55 - 01:00
Judo, half-middleweight final	00:20 - 01:55
Summary B (Channel 1)	01:15 - 2:35
Swimming final	02:25 - 04:30
Boxing preliminary	02:55 - 06:10
Summary C (Channel 1)	02:00 - 3:30



Brazil forward Bebeto (left) shows his frustration July 21 as Japanese defenseman Hideo Suzuki (right) walks away in the second half of Olympic play in Miami. Japan upset Brazil 1-0 (Reuters photo)

## Brazil, Italy upset

ATLANTA (R) — Favourites Brazil suffered a shock 1-0 defeat by Japan and a huge setback to their hopes of winning their first Olympic soccer title Sunday.

In two other upsets, European under-21 champions Italy lost 1-0 to unfancied Mexico and African powerhouse Ghana, 1992 Games bronze medalists, slumped 1-0 to South Korea.

Brazil, attempting to become the first country to hold both the World Cup and Olympic title since Italy in the 1930s, were rocked by an under-rated Japanese side whose heroic goalkeeper Yoshikatsu Kawaguchi made a series of fine saves.

Having dominated for much of the game in Miami, Brazil conceded a goal in the 70th minute when goalkeeper Dida and midfielder Flavio Conceicao collided after Dida failed to hold a rasping shot from Teruyoshi Ito and the ball rolled into the net.

Brazil, fielding 1994 World Cup heroes Bebeto, Aldair and Ronaldinho as well as Juninho, threw men forward in a desperate bid to find an equaliser, but Kawaguchi continued to deny them.

In the second-half he

made a point-blank save from Savio, stopped a curling free-kick from Juninho, turned a drive from Flavio Conceicao round the post and fisted away a rasping shot from Bebeto.

Japan, who were well organised and highly mobile in midfield, share top spot in Group D with Nigeria, who beat Hungary 1-0 in Orlando, Florida.

Italy, fielding World Cup goalkeeper Gianluca Pagliuca as one of their three over-age players in a tournament otherwise restricted to under-23s, went down to a late sucker-punch after having been content to defend for most of their Group C game in Birmingham, Alabama.

Francisco Palencia ghosted into the box to meet a cross from the left. Unmarked, he took his time to pick his spot and deliberately placed the ball past Pagliuca.

In the other Group C match, a highly-fancied Ghana — built around players from their under-17 world championship-winning sides of 1991 and 1995 — lost to a goal four minutes from halftime in Washington. Woon Jong-Hwan was the goalscoring hero for South Korea.

## Tang's record signals Asia's strength

ATLANTA (R) — Tang Lingsheng broke the world bantamweight (54kg) record Sunday to give China its first Olympic weightlifting gold in 12 years.

Tang was left holding his record-breaking lift for what seemed like an eternity as one of the three judges' lights failed to come on, and he refused to put it down until his coach rushed on to the stage to tell him he had won.

The win announced to the long-dominant south-east Europeans and Russians that Asia's pre-olympic leadership of the world rankings in six weight classes was not just a

flash in the pan.

After all the main contenders lifted 137.5 kg in the snatch, Greece's Albanian-born world champion Leonidas Sabanis hoisted 167.5 kg in the clean and jerk, forcing tang to lift a world record or lose the gold on his higher bodyweight.

Tang smoothly pushed the 170 kg bar aloft off his chest, equalling the world record for the clean and jerk and setting a new combined mark of 307.5 kg, 2.5 kg more than the previous record held by Bulgaria's Nikolai Peshalov.

## Agassi, Seles seek gold standard

ATLANTA (R) — Andre Agassi and Monica Seles will have to cut short their sightseeing and get down to work Tuesday to help resurrect an Olympic tennis tournament which has lost a significant amount of gloss over the past week.

Agassi and Seles, respective top seeds following the injury withdrawals of Pete Sampras and Steffi Graf, both feature on the first day programme as organisers do their best to divert the U.S. public's gaze away from the dream team and the pool.

While both are millionaires who can afford just about any luxury in life, neither the Las Vegas showman nor the former Yugoslav prodigy can boast an Olympic medal in a drawer at home.

Agassi, whose father Mike represented Iran at boxing in the 1948 and 1952 Games, has already promised to "go out and bust my ass to win" even though his recent form — just two wins in five matches since April — is scarcely encouraging.

Seles too has been troubled by a persistent shoulder injury, yet without the two unlikely team mates the Olympic draw would be a sorry sight.

For assorted reasons, none of this year's men's Grand Slam champions is in Atlanta. Apart from world number one Sampras, Thomas Muster, Boris Becker, Michael Chang, Yevgeny Kafelnikov, Richard Krajicek and Jim Courier are all elsewhere, mostly through choice.

Muster has claimed tennis lacks Olympic tradition and prestige, conveniently ignoring the fact it was part of the Games schedule from 1896 to 1924. It returned as an exhibition sport in 1968 in Mexico City and in 1984 in Los Angeles, before becoming a medal sport once again in Seoul in 1988.

Defending champion Marc Rosset of Switzerland is around to launch the centre court action at Stone Mountain Park against little-known Moroccan Hicham Arazi, but the pre-tournament favourite is probably Goran Ivanisevic, seeded second behind Agassi, who begins against south African Marcos Ondruska on Wednesday.

He and the other leading seeds can all relax for an extra 24 hours, by which time they will know whether Agassi has survived

his tricky first round encounter with Sweden's Jonas Bjorkman, a fourth round finisher at both the Australian and French Opens this year.

Graf's recurrent knee injury has left the door ajar amongst the women for Spain's Conchita Martinez and Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, seeded second and third respectively and hoping to achieve on foreign soil what they failed to do four years ago at home.

The women's gold medalist from the 1992 Games in Barcelona, however, is nowhere to be seen. Jennifer Capriati's beaming smile as she stood on the winner's podium quickly faded as problems in her career and personal life mounted.

After two arrests and a hiatus from the sport, she began a serious comeback this year but her erratic form failed to win her a place on the U.S. team.

Nowadays the young American player regarded as a potential new star is Chanda Rubin, but the odds on her striking gold in Atlanta are lengthy. She has not played for five weeks after suffering a stress fracture of a bone in her wrist.

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**Sports**

British rowers Matthew Pinsent, winning world and Olympic gold in action during their heat at the Atlanta Olympics, and Henry (right) during the USA women's team won the heat (Reuters photo)

**Louganis glad of competition**  
 ATLANTA (AP) — Greg Louganis, who shocked the world when he was diagnosed with AIDS, is happy to compete for 12 years in the sport. "I'm awfully glad I'm not alone," Louganis said. "I'm awfully glad I'm not alone." Games on home soil.

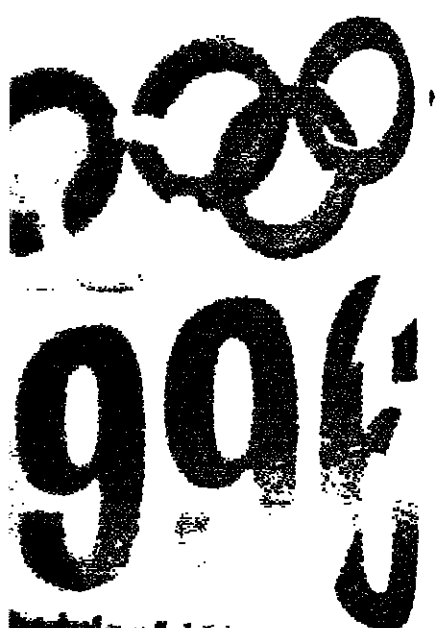
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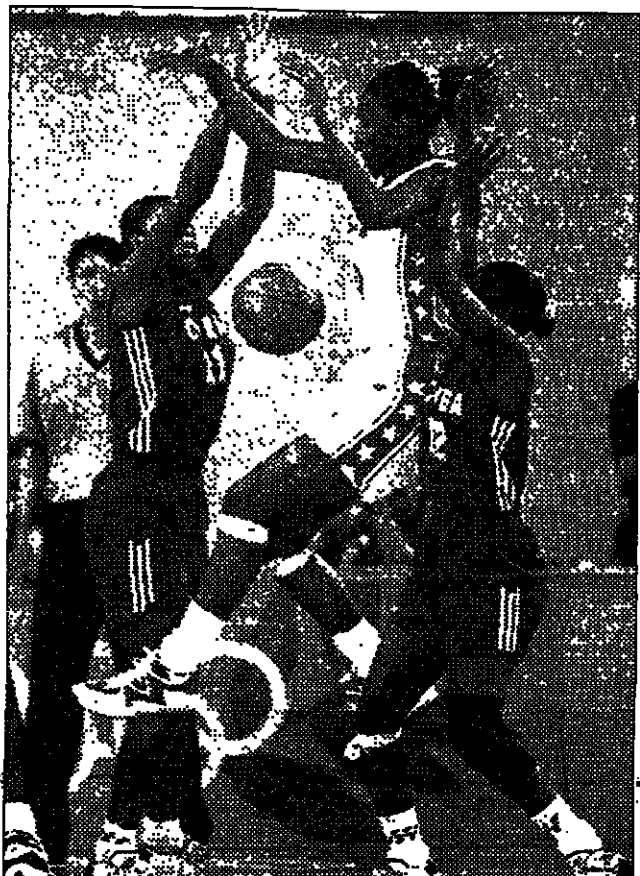


Medals of 1996 Olympic Games

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British rowers Matthew Pincent (left) and Steven Redgrave, reigning world and Olympic champions, are pictured in action during their open heat of the coxless pairs at the Atlanta Olympics. Redgrave moved a step closer to a fourth consecutive Olympic title after comfortably winning the heat (Reuters photo)



USA's Lisa Leslie (centre) is unable to control the ball between Cuba's Yamilet Martinez (left) and Delia Hernandez Henry (right) during their basketball game. The USA women's team won the preliminary game 101 to 84 (Reuters photo)

## Louganis glad to have stress of competition behind him

ATLANTA (AFP) — Greg Louganis, the Olympic diving legend who shocked the world when he announced last year that he has AIDS, is happy to be back at the Games, as a spectator.

"I competed for 12 years in world class competition, that's long enough," Louganis said. "I'm awfully glad I'm not competing," he said, adding that pressures on U.S. divers would be tremendous with the Games on home soil.

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## France's Essombe suffers broken leg

ATLANTA (R) — French Judooka Estha Essombe was left writhing on the floor with a suspected leg fracture on Sunday when she was thrown by Italy's Ylenia Scapin in the under 72 kg event.

Scapin took the bronze medal with the fast ippon throw and waved to the crowds as Essombe was removed by stretcher.

Team medics said later they suspected Essombe's leg was broken. She was sent to hospital for further checks.

Belgium's Ulla Werbrouck took the gold in the event, and the silver went to Japan's Yoko Tanabe, a three-time Olympian who is bidding farewell to the games in Atlanta.

Cuba's Diadenis Luna, the 1995 world champion, shared the bronze with Scapin.

Three-time world judo champion Pawel Nastula of Poland won gold in the men's half-heavyweight division and dedicated his medal to the national team chief, who died during the Olympic opening ceremony.



France's Estha Essombe (right) yells in pain as she damages her leg and loses to Italy's Ylenia Scapin in the women's bronze medal 72-kg judo match (Reuters photo)

"His death came as a big shock to all of us," Nastula said of Eugeniusz Pietrasik, who suffered a heart attack at Friday's ceremony.

"Nobody expected it, but it has mobilised all of our athletes. He is looking down on us and sharing our honours."

Nastula, 26, one of Europe's most consistent competitors, made quick work of 21-year-old South Korean student Kim Min-soo, the 1994 junior world champion. Less than two

minutes into the match he felled the younger man with a text-book ippon throw.

Kim reached the finals after a hard struggle against 30-year-old veteran Stephane Traineau of France, the 1991 world champion, whose drive for the gold at the 1994 Barcelona Games fizzled early.

Traineau won a bronze along with Brazil's Miguel Fernandes, a gold medalist in Barcelona in the under 95-kg event.

## Kazakhstan win 1st medal

ATLANTA (R) — Yuri Melnichenko of Kazakhstan won his country's first summer Olympic gold Sunday and robbed the United States of a home victory by defeating world champion Dennis Hall in the 57-kg class Greco-Roman wrestling.

Hall, a shaven-headed 25-year-old, had attracted an enthusiastic home crowd to the Atlanta conference centre that is hosting the ancient Olympic sport.

But they were soon silenced when Melnichenko, the 1994 world champion, used his superior speed to take a 4-0 points lead in the first minute of the five-minute bout.

The only U.S. golds in Greco-Roman wrestling came at the Los Angeles Olympics, boycotted by the eastern bloc countries which have always dominated the sport.

The Poles were on top form and grabbed two of the five golds on offer in Sunday's session.

Andrzej Wroński, the 1988 Olympic and former world champion, ended what he said would be his last Olympics with victory over Sergei Lishtvan of Belarus.

Medals table after the 2nd day of competition			
Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Poland	4	0	0
France	3	2	3
Russia	2	2	3
China	2	2	2
United States	2	0	2
Belgium	2	0	0
Turkey	2	0	0
Italy	1	1	1
South Korea	1	1	1
Australia	0	0	0
Costa Rica	0	0	0
Ireland	0	0	0
Kazakhstan	0	0	0
New Zealand	0	0	0
South Africa	0	0	0
Germany	0	0	0
Belarus	0	0	0
Cuba	0	0	0
Sweden	0	0	0
Brazil	0	0	0
Greece	0	0	0
Japan	0	0	0
Spain	0	0	0
Belgium	0	0	0
Hungary	0	0	0
Canada	0	0	0
Yugoslavia	0	0	0

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## Russian women edge U.S. team

ATLANTA (R) — Russia's women gymnasts, responding to an inspiring pep talk from coach Leonid Arkaev, grabbed a slender lead over the United States on Sunday after the compulsory exercises.

World champions Romania set the early mark in the morning session but were overtaken by the Americans, who in turn were caught by the Russians in a compelling competition that promises a sizzling showdown in later options.

"I told them they had to hit their landings, that we needed to do well in the vault," said Arkaev, who rallied his team around him before the crucial exercise.

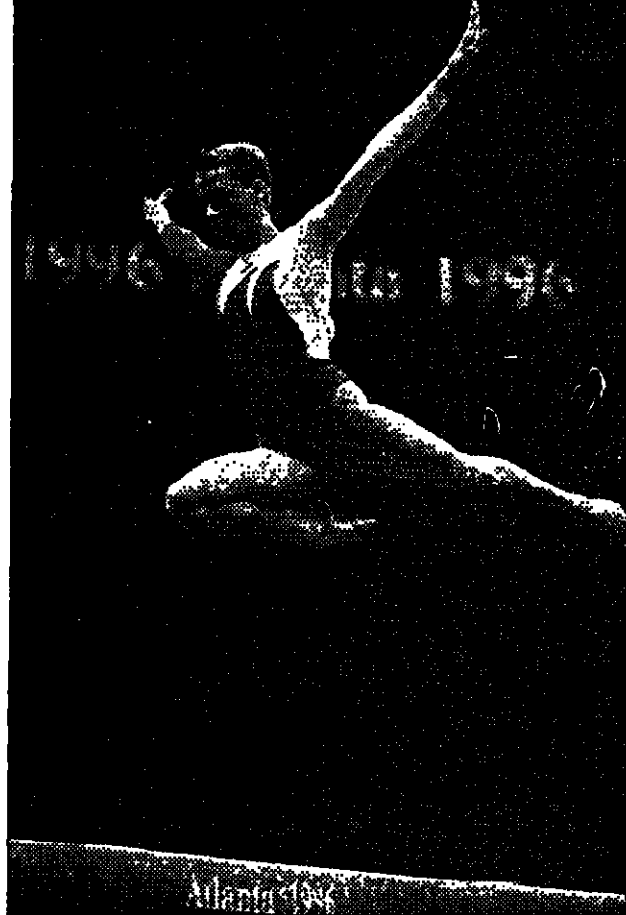
Russia totalled 193.796 points from 24 routines to lead the United States by a scant 0.127 of a point.

Romania were third another half-point back, followed by Ukraine and China.

The Americans looked as if they might run their medal chances to zero with four successive shaky performances on the beam.

Then came Shannon Miller's turn, and the five-time medalist in Barcelona put the U.S. Team back on course with the day's best beam performance, a 9.737.

Tiny Dominique Moceanu followed Miller with another superb routine on the gymnastics' equivalent of the high wire and the U.S. side was off and running.



Russia's Svetlana Chorkina performs in front of the crowd at the Georgia Dome. The gymnastics competitions will end July 30 (Reuters photo)

Results were disappointing for China, in both individual and team events. Beam world champion Mo Huilan broke form coming out of a hands and on the uneven bars and took an uncharacteristic 9.437. She was 12th in the standings.

## Kingdom's women's basketball championship starts today

By Aileen Bannayan  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Kingdom's basketball season moves into full gear Tuesday when the 1996 women's championship gets underway with three teams taking part.

While the Jordan Basketball Federation (JBF) has been unable to muster more than four teams in the competition for the past seven years, the encouraging factor may be that participating clubs have started taking a serious interest in their teams at the time the JBF has begun, focusing on national teams since last summer.

The three teams — Al Jazireh, Al Orthodoxi and Al Ahli — yesterday finished a friendly four-team tournament which also included a visiting team from Ramallah. Al Jazireh won the tournament with an unbeaten record 55-29 over Ramallah, 56-49 over Al Orthodoxi and 58-54 over Al Ahli in overtime.

Although the three teams' form appeared to be quite close, competition titleholders Al Jazireh might be the title favourites after also taking part in Al Jala' tournament in Aleppo Syria two weeks ago where they also won the four-team tournament after beating top Syrian teams Al Jala' 60-44, Al Horreih 61-51, and Al Yarmouk 61-47.

Al Jazireh will be missing centres Jumana Salti through injury and Dima Shaded. However, Rana Hussein will be joining her team which includes Suhair Makusi, Hala Muheisen, Tala Al Mauge, Andeira Kas-esieh.

Al Orthodoxi have a new team mostly of under-18 players who represented Jordan in the Asian Championship recently. They include Lubna Masri, Jumana Awwad, Nadine Kaskhash, Luma Abu Judum.

Al Ahli, includes Sirsa Abaza, Sirsa Naghaway, Hiba Enabeh, Rana Saeed.

Al Jazireh had first won the country's women's championship from Al Orthodoxi in 1993 before losing it in 1994 when they pulled out of the championship before reclaiming it last year.

### Competition record

1989-1990 Orthodoxi, Ahli, Homentmen  
1991 Orthodoxi, Ahli, Homentmen  
1992 Orthodoxi, Ahli, Homentmen, Jazireh  
1993 Jazireh, Orthodoxi, Ahli, Abu Nusair  
1994 Orthodoxi, Ahli, Abu Nusair, Jazireh (withdrew)  
1995 Jazireh, Ahli, Orthodoxi (withdrew)

### Schedule of matches (All at Sports Palace at 7:30 p.m.)

Round 1  
Tue. 23/7 Ahli-Orthodoxi  
Thurs. 25/7 Jazireh-Orthodoxi  
Sun 28/7 Ahli-Jazireh  
Round 2  
Tue. 30/7 Ahli- Orthodoxi  
Thurs. 1/8 Jazireh-Orthodoxi  
Sat. 3/8 Ahli-Jazireh

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PRESENTS

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# Palestinians have right to 'self-determination' in Jerusalem — Mubarak

CAIRO (AFP) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Monday backed the right of the Palestinians to "self-determination" in Jerusalem, while underlining that Arabs still extended their hand in peace to Israel.

Mr. Mubarak said Arabs were "serious" in seeking "an historic reconciliation between Israelis and Arabs, including the Palestinian people who have the right to self-determination in Palestine and Jerusalem."

He said he transmitted this message to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu during their first face-to-face talks in Cairo last Thursday.

Mr. Mubarak made the comments in a speech to his government, broadcast live on state television, on the occasion of the 43rd anniversary of the July 23 revolution.

Mr. Netanyahu has raised an outcry from Arab capitals with his headline policies ruling out a return of the Golan Heights to Syria, the creation of a Palestinian state or any negotiations on the future of Jerusalem.

The right-wing Israeli leader struck a more moderate tone during his visit to

Cairo, although he refused to back off any of his positions. Mr. Mubarak pronounced himself more "relaxed" about Mr. Netanyahu's positions after the talks.

After the Netanyahu meeting, Mr. Mubarak insisted the Arabs did not seek a "divided" Jerusalem, which his foreign minister Amr Musa later clarified saying a "whole Jerusalem" did not mean wholly Israeli.

Israel claims the entire Holy City as its "eternal" capital, while the Palestinians want its eastern sector, occupied and annexed by Israel in 1967, as a capital for a future state.

Mr. Mubarak said he told Mr. Netanyahu "the Arabs' hand will remain extended to make peace, as long as Israel extends its hand to the Arabs."

Responding to the hard-line Israeli leader's emphasis on security, Mr. Mubarak said he underlined to Mr. Netanyahu that "security must be for all."

"Regional security will only take hold if it is felt by all and if it is balanced and without exceptions," he said, adding that Egypt

seeks "security for all the Arab and non-Arab peoples of the region."

He said his meeting with Mr. Netanyahu aimed to "save the peace process from what has affected it lately due to developments on the Israeli side," referring to Mr. Netanyahu's victory over peace architect Shimon Peres in May elections.

Mr. Mubarak said he "spoke frankly about the dangers of the (Israeli) policy of retreat in the peace process and imposing faits accomplis" and "emphasised the need to create an atmosphere open to dialogue and negotiations."

Renewed negotiation must be made "on the same basis it has followed since the beginning, particularly the principle of land for peace and the accords reached so far by the Palestinians and Israelis," Mr. Mubarak said.

"The most important result" of his meeting with Mr. Netanyahu was that the Israeli leader left convinced "of the need to treat the Arab parties as equal partners" with Israel, Mr. Mubarak said.



**BORDER POLICE WAVE PALESTINIAN MAN INTO JERUSALEM:** An Israeli border police waves an elderly Palestinian man past a checkpoint from the West Bank into Jerusalem Monday. Israel delayed the planned easing of a five-month old closure of the West Bank and Gaza in the wake of the abduction of an Israeli Arab man from East Jerusalem by PLO security forces (Reuters photo)

## Promise of Golan necessary for Syria, Israeli intelligence asserts

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli army intelligence has told Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu that Syria will not resume peace talks if it sees no chance of regaining the Golan Heights, an Israeli newspaper said on Monday.

"Syria will not continue the peace process with Israel if it thinks it will not get the Golan Heights," Haaretz quoted the head of military intelligence's research branch, Brigadier-General Yacov Amidror, saying in a report to Mr. Netanyahu.

Israeli officials were not available for comment. The army said it was checking the report.

The headline Mr. Netanyahu, who ousted Shimon Peres in May 29 elections, is opposed to trading occupied Arab land for peace. Mr. Peres had suspended Syrian-Israeli peace talks after a wave of Islamic militant suicide attacks in Israel earlier this year.

"It is not clear to the Syrians how they can return to the

negotiating table without knowing ahead of time that they will get back the Golan, as they thought before," the daily said.

Syria said it was not convinced Mr. Netanyahu had softened his headline policies after he told Egyptian officials last week that Israel would stick to the terms of reference of the 1991 Madrid Arab-Israeli talks, which laid down the principle of land-for-peace in talks between Israel and Arab countries.

Mr. Netanyahu has repeatedly said, most recently to foreign reporters on July 2, that Israel's return of the Sinai Peninsula under the 1979 peace treaty between the two states fulfilled Israel's land for peace obligation as the Sinai made up 90 per cent of the land Israel captured in the 1967 war.

Haaretz also said Brig.-Gen. Amidror believed broadening of Israel's links with the Arab World was contingent upon continuation of peace talks with the Syrians and

Palestinians.

**Netanyahu a bad bet for peace — Syria**

Meanwhile, Syria warned those still betting the new right-wing government in Israel would choose the path of peace that they were harbouring false and dangerous illusions.

"The bet is lost and will disperse Arab ranks and destroy the gains made at the last Arab summit" held in June in Cairo, wrote the daily Tishrin.

The comments came a day after Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa met with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad to give him a message from his Egyptian counterpart Hosni Mubarak.

Mr. Mubarak became the first Arab leader to hold talks with new Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Thursday and emerged saying he felt more optimistic about the peace process after their meetings.

Mr. Netanyahu has sparked

Arab alarm with his headline stand on the peace process and refusal to trade further Arab land for peace.

Tishrin said that Mr. Netanyahu's coalition government of right-wing and religious parties "is not a government for peace."

"The only way to allow the Arabs to recover their rights is to strengthen their solidarity and to overcome the breaches made by Zionism in the Arab ranks," it added, referring to the separate peace accords signed by the Palestinians and Jordan with Israel.

The comments came as French Foreign Minister Herve de Charette was due in Syria Monday on the first leg of a Middle East tour aimed at giving fresh impetus to the peace process, on ice since February.

The English-language Syria Times said the visit showed the European interest shown in the region and "its role now, more than ever before, demanded."

## Israel likely to favour continuing U.S. aid to PNA

**From the Jerusalem Post**

ISRAEL IS likely to favour a continuation of the estimated \$75 million in U.S. aid to the Palestinian Authority (PA), sources have said. If Israel plans to affect the U.S. decision on the matter, it must act before an Aug. 15 deadline.

It remains unclear whether the Israeli government will send a signal to Washington, as its predecessor did, that it actively favours aggressive lobbying of Congress or will act in a more passive manner.

At the same time, it is clear the government will insist upon Palestinian compliance with the standards established by Congress in the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act. The act establishes a yardstick

for Palestinian compliance in such areas as curbing terror, desisting from PA activity in Jerusalem, and ensuring the Liberation Organisation (PLO) amends its covenant.

On July 15, President Bill Clinton issued a certification that the Palestinians were abiding by their commitments. According to U.S. law, both houses of Congress have 30 days to vote disapproval of Mr. Clinton's certification or the appropriated funds are released.

The U.S. provides about \$75 million in assistance to the Palestinians, but only an estimated \$10 million go to the operating budget of the PA; the remainder goes to infrastructure and private sector

projects.

Last year's appropriation for the PA operating budget is currently being held up by House International Relations Committee chairman Benjamin Gilman (Rep.-NY).

Beyond the U.S. assistance, there is also an estimated \$25 million in U.S.-backed guarantees and credits available to American investors in the territories.

The issue of assistance to the PA presents a dilemma for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Last year, he told congressional Republicans not to assist the PA, because it did not live up to its commitments. He also argued in his campaign that Israeli assistance to the Palestinians should be curbed, if not eliminated.

But since taking office, Mr. Netanyahu has reiterated that he is interested in Palestinian economic success and, to this end, favours a gradual easing of the closure. A move to cut U.S. aid could lead other countries to do likewise, putting more pressure on Israel to provide economic assistance instead.

There are also indications that Mr. Netanyahu assured Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak last week that he wants the current level of \$2.1 billion in U.S. aid to Cairo to continue. The Egyptians fear greater congressional pressure on their aid programme, especially since Mr. Netanyahu offered to accept unspecified aid cuts in the future.

## Afeworki rules out armed clash with Sudan

CAIRO (AFP) — Eritrean President Isaias Afewerki ruled out the possibility of an armed conflict between his country and Sudan despite their differences and troubles along their border.

"We will not enter into a military conflict with the Khartoum regime. These are only unfounded speculations," Mr. Afewerki told the Monday issue of the Arab weekly Al Wasat, received in Cairo.

"Our countries can get beyond such confrontations," he said.

Khartoum warned Asmara twice in early July against any move to invade its territory after the death of two Sudanese policemen in a mine explosion near the border with Eritrea.

Asmara is a base for the National Democratic Alliance, the main Sudanese opposition coalition, which Khartoum has accused of planting mines, attacking farmers and smuggling along the Eritrean border.

"We have a commitment in principle to support and assist the Sudanese opposition whether from the north or the south," Mr. Afewerki said, adding Eritrea "will not hesitate to offer all types of aid possible."

He denied accusations by Khartoum that Eritrea allowed contraband weapons to flow through the country to opposition in Sudan.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Militant jailed for belonging to illegal party

AMMAN (AFP) — A Jordanian has been jailed for four months on charges of belonging to an extremist illegal party in the first case of its kind, legal sources said Monday. Atta Abu Risteh was charged with being the spokesman for the "Islamic Liberation Party," which has never been recognised by the Jordanian authorities due to its extremist stand against the monarchy. In 1993 Jordan officially authorised most political parties banned in 1957 following an abortive coup blamed on ultra left-wing groups. Mr. Abu Risteh, of Palestinian origin, is already serving a three-year sentence imposed at the start of 1996 for slandering King Hussein.

### Palestinian sentenced to 10 years

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) — A Palestinian who attacked two Israeli border guards with a knife was sentenced to 10 years in prison on Monday, legal sources said. Montasser Jaber, 27, from Nablus in the West Bank, attacked two border guards in East Jerusalem in November after they tried to check his identity. The guards, who received light injuries to the head and chest, managed to overpower and detain Mr. Jaber. The Palestinian's defence counsel told the court his client reacted violently because he had been traumatised by a beating he had received from Israeli soldiers as a youngster. But the court's judges rejected his claims and said it was his duty to impose "an exemplary and deterring sentence so as to put an end to attacks on the security forces which were made commonplace by the intifada, the Palestinian uprising between 1987 and 1993."

### Saudis cordon off street in bomb scare

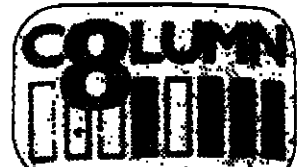
DUBAI (R) — Saudi security forces on Monday cordoned off a Riyadi street and removed suspicious parcels after a bomb scare on the same block where five Americans and two Indians were killed by a car bomb last November, residents said. "We think it's explosives. It is dangerous, go inside," a resident quoted a Saudi soldier as telling bystanders shortly before residents heard what they thought were two small controlled detonations. Residents said there was a road block on Al Thalathin Street in the Olia district and police wearing body armour and helmets were on the scene. They said U.S. troops and armoured trucks were also there. Residents said they heard two small blasts. "After the small explosions I saw them remove part of a carton... Although they said three boxes, we heard only two small explosions," one said. Security at a large compound housing Americans on the street has been stepped up following the June 25 bombing of a U.S. military housing complex in Dhahran, eastern Saudi Arabia.

### More deaths imminent in prison hunger strikes

ANKARA (AFP) — More deaths were feared imminent among scores of hunger-striking left-wing convicts in Turkish jails after one prisoner died at the weekend, authorities said Monday. "Four hunger strikers in (Istanbul's) Bayrampasa and Umraniye prisons are in critical condition," Istanbul's Chief Prosecutor Ferzan Citici told reporters. However, the left-wing Istanbul-based newspapers Cumhuriyet and Demokrası said that the number of hunger strikers near death throughout the prisons was much higher. "The hunger strikers unfortunately won't accept medical treatment," Mr. Citici said. The hunger strike started by scores of leftist prisoners to protest against poor living conditions in jails entered its 64th day Monday. Hundreds of other prisoners are supporting these activists by holding rotational hunger strikes. Aygun Ugur, a member of the outlawed Maoist TKP/ML (Turkish Communist Party/Marxist-Leninist), who had been sentenced to a 12-and-a-half year prison term for involvement in terrorist acts, died in Umraniye prison Sunday on the 63rd day of his hunger strike.

### Saudi Arabia lifts visa ban on Nigerians

LAGOS (AFP) — Saudi Arabia has lifted restrictions on the movement imposed early this year on Nigerians following an outbreak of meningitis, a Saudi embassy official said Monday in Kano, northern Nigeria. After the lifting of the ban at the weekend, Saudi Arabia will again be issued on Aug. 2, Sheikh Usmana Al Jowhar, the Saudi consul general in Kano, said. Despite assurances by the Nigerian government, Saudi authorities barred 30,000 Nigerians from observing this year's holy pilgrimage to Mecca and Medina for fear that the potentially lethal disease could spread to Saudi Arabia. More than 300 Nigerian pilgrims were deported on their arrival in Saudi Arabia.



## American mugged after being offered drug-laced sweets

BUDAPEST (AFP) — An American tourist fell prey to a gang of robbers at the weekend after fellow passengers on a train offered him sweets laced with sedatives and then made off with his valuables, worth about \$20,000, police said Monday. The 42-year-old unnamed U.S. citizen passed out after he was offered some cakes by fellow passengers in a train at Budapest's main Keleti Railway Station, and regained consciousness only hours later in a hospital in Vac, some 30 kilometres north of the capital, police said. All his valuables and luggage, worth some \$20,000, were gone. Police refused to release the tourist's name and so far were unable to identify the drug cakes were laced with. A spokesman only added that the case was unprecedented in Hungary.

## Church tells members to drink disinfectant

HONG KONG (R) — A Christian church group in Hong Kong caused a stir with reports that it instructs its members to drink a medicinal disinfectant in order to cleanse their body and soul despite dangers to their health. The Church of Zion told worshippers to drink hydrogen peroxide, a commonly used antiseptic fluid applied to external wounds, the daily South China Morning Post newspaper said. The paper quoted doctors as warning that drinking the liquid could cause seizures, respiratory failure and heart attacks.

## China modernises ragtag army

BEIJING (R) — The days when peasants could become military commanders in China are over. Soldiers of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) cannot be promoted to the rank of officer unless they attend a military academy. Hong Kong's Beijing-backed Wen Wei Po newspaper said Monday. The Central Military Commission of the Communist Party introduced the requirement as part of efforts to modernise the PLA, the paper said.

## Pavarotti tells of soccer dream

ATLANTA (R) — Italian tenor Luciano Pavarotti, on a visit to the Olympic Games, said his sporting dream was to play top-flight soccer. "I would like to lose a lot of weight, be very strong like (Alberto Tomba) and to play soccer," the larger than life opera star told a news conference at which he was joined by Olympic Alpine skiing champion Tomba. "I started to play in goal when I was four years old and always dreamed of playing for Italy," Pavarotti, a keen horseman, said the Olympics remained a great institution despite criticisms of their commercialism.

## Brazil men turned off sex by tough times

BRASILIA (R) — Tough times in the Brazilian economy have taken a toll on the sexual performance of the country's males, a newspaper reported. A Sao Paulo cardiovascular surgeon told Estado de Sao Paulo that stress, as opposed to physical ailments, accounts for 60 per cent of men seeking his services. That compared with 30 per cent in 1986 when Brazil began a series of austere, anti-inflation programmes. Roberto Tullii told the newspaper. Even the average age of Dr. Tullii's patients has fallen to 37 from 47 ten years ago.

## New currency coin

AMMAN (R) — The Central Bank of Jordan, introduced new 100 and 200 quarter dinar coins on Monday. The new coins are the same design as the old ones, but with different denominations. The 100 quarter dinar coin is the same as the old 200 quarter dinar coin, and the 200 quarter dinar coin is the same as the old 400 quarter dinar coin. The new coins are made of aluminium and are the same size as the old ones. The new coins are expected to be in circulation by the end of the month.

## Volume 21 Number 1

## Sultan Qaboos, Senegal president congratulate King

AMMAN (R) — Sultan Qaboos of Oman and President Abdou Diouf of Senegal both congratulated King Hussein of Jordan on his 50th birthday on Monday. Sultan Qaboos sent a message of congratulations to the King, wishing him a long and healthy reign. President Diouf also sent a message of congratulations to the King, wishing him a long and healthy reign. The King received the messages and expressed his appreciation for the wishes of his friends and allies.

## Bundestag president gets visit

AMMAN (R) — President of the German Bundestag, Hans Eichel, is expected to visit Jordan in the near future. Eichel is the first German Bundestag president to visit Jordan. He is expected to arrive in Amman on Monday. During his visit, Eichel is expected to meet with King Hussein and Prime Minister Haniyeh. He will also visit the Jordanian Parliament and the Jordanian Armed Forces. Eichel's visit is part of a series of German government visits to the Middle East aimed at promoting peace and stability in the region.

## UN panel approves payments for Gulf war losses

GENEVA (R) — Buoyed by a decision by the U.N. panel to approve \$223 million in payments to Iraq's war victims, the U.N. Commission on Human Rights said Monday. The panel's decision is a landmark in the history of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights. It is the first time the panel has approved payments to war victims. The panel's decision is a landmark in the history of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights. It is the first time the panel has approved payments to war victims. The panel's decision is a landmark in the history of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights. It is the first time the panel has approved payments to war victims.

## Bodies of 3 missing since 1994 found

AMMAN (AFP) — Builders have accidentally found the remains of three people in a mud-buried jeep who had been missing since flash floods struck the northern area of the Kingdom in 1994. Two Jordanians, aged 36 and 39, and a 23-year-old Egyptian labourer, were reported missing after the flood in Mafrqa, 72 kilometres northwest of Amman. The bodies were found Monday when a four-wheel truck struck a Toyota Landcruiser totally submerged in the mud. The contractor who was working near the flood site, immediately informed the police, who found three decomposed bodies in the vehicle.

## Hundreds said dead in Libyan mutiny

CAIRO (AFP) — A mutiny in a Libyan jail containing political prisoners left hundreds dead among guards and detainees, the Libyan opposition in Cairo said Tuesday. "According to information from Libyans who have travelled to Egypt, the mutiny erupted on July 5 in the Bahariya Prison near Tripoli. Hundreds of political prisoners and officers died. An opposition leader told AFP, asking not to be named."